



**U. S. Department of Justice**  
**Drug Enforcement Administration**

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[www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov)

Washington, D.C. 20537

Dear Colleague:

On Friday, December 1, 2006, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) published a Final Rule in the *Federal Register* to clarify the DEA registration requirement that an individual practitioner who practices in more than one state must obtain a separate DEA registration for each state.

While the Controlled Substances Act requires that a separate registration be obtained for each principal place of business or professional practice where controlled substances are manufactured, distributed, or dispensed, a limited exception to this requirement permits practitioners to obtain a DEA registration at one location and prescribe controlled substances at multiple practice sites within that same state without being separately licensed.

Title 21 Code of Federal Regulations § 1301.12(b) (3), however, does not specify that it pertains to intrastate locations only. In the past, individual practitioners have applied the regulation to interstate situations, which is contrary to the intent of the regulation, the CSA, and the underlying principles that apply to individual practitioner registration. To clarify this regulation, the Final Rule explicitly states that the registration exception is limited to locations within the same state or jurisdiction of the United States.

Upon publication, a copy of this Final Rule will be available at the Diversion Control Program web site [www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov](http://www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark W. Caverly".

Mark W. Caverly, Chief  
Liaison and Policy Section  
Office of Diversion Control