



**STATE OF
OHIO**
BOARD OF PHARMACY

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL LICENSEES REGARDING EXTORTION SCAM

Licensees should be on alert for a scam that has been targeting Ohio healthcare providers.

Scammers have been calling and faxing prescribers and pharmacists saying they are being investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and their DEA registration will be revoked or suspended or they will be arrested if they do not agree to pay a fine immediately via phone or fax.

Additionally, individuals posing as Board of Pharmacy or State Medical Board agents are also contacting healthcare providers by phone and/or fax in an attempt to obtain payment to resolve a disciplinary matter.

Please be aware that if the Board of Pharmacy or State Medical Board are conducting an investigation and that individual faces action against their license, they will receive an official notice of opportunity for a hearing either via certified mail or by personal service.

If you are unsure of whether the individual claiming to be a Board of Pharmacy agent or inspector is legitimate, you may call the Board office at 614-466-4143 and ask to speak to the Compliance and Enforcement Department.

The DEA is also aware of the extortion scam and has published more information on its website, including how to notify the DEA:

https://www.dea diversion.usdoj.gov/pubs/pressreleases/extortion_scam.htm
