

interest. These investigations have included inspection and testing of the company's physical security systems, audits of the company's records, verification of the company's compliance with state and local laws, and a review of the company's background and history. Therefore, pursuant to section 1008(a) of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act and in accordance with Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1311.42, the above firm is granted registration as an importer of the basic classes of controlled substances listed above.

Dated: May 8, 2002.

**Laura M. Nagel,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Drug Enforcement Administration

#### Importation of Controlled Substances; Notice of Application

Pursuant to section 1008 of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 958(f)), the Attorney General shall, prior to issuing a registration under this section to a bulk manufacturer of a controlled substance in Schedule I or II and prior to issuing a regulation under section 1002(a) authorizing the importation of such a substance, provide manufacturers holding registrations for the bulk manufacture of the substance an opportunity for a hearing.

Therefore, in accordance with section 1301.34 of Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that on December 19, 2001, Salsbury Chemicals, Inc., 1205 11th Street, Charles City, Iowa 50616-3466, made application by renewal to the Drug Enforcement Administration to be registered as an importer of phenylacetone (8501), a basic class of controlled substance listed in Schedule II.

The firm plans to import phenylacetone to manufacture amphetamines for distribution to its customers.

Any manufacturer holding, or applying for, registration as a bulk manufacturer of this basic class of controlled substance may file written comments on or objections to the application described above and may, at the same time, file a written request for a hearing on such application in

accordance with 21 CFR 1301.43 in such form as prescribed by 21 CFR 1316.47.

Any such comments, objections or requests for a hearing may be addressed, in quintuplicate, to the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20537, Attention: DEA Federal Register Representative (CCF), and must be filed no later than June 17, 2002.

This procedure is to be conducted simultaneously with and independent of the procedures described in 21 CFR 1301.34(b), (c), (d), (e), and (f). As noted in a previous notice at 40 FR 43745-46 (September 23, 1975), all applicants for registration to import a basic class of any controlled substance in Schedule I or II are and will continue to be required to demonstrate to the Deputy Assistance Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration that the requirements for such registration pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 958(a), 21 U.S.C. 823(a), and 21 CFR 1301.34(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) are satisfied.

Dated: April 24, 2002.

**Laura M. Nagel,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Drug Enforcement Administration

#### Steven J. Watterson Denial of Application

On May 21, 2001, the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), issued an Order to Show Cause (OTSC) by certified mail to Steven J. Watterson, notifying him of an opportunity to show cause as to why the DEA should not deny his application for DEA registration, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 823(f), for reason that Mr. Watterson was not licensed to conduct controlled substance research activity by the Tennessee Board of Pharmacy. The OTSC also notified Mr. Watterson that should no request for hearing be filed within 30 days, his right to a hearing would be deemed waived.

The OTSC was sent certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address listed on Mr. Watterson's application for DEA registration. DEA received a return receipt dated May 29, 2001, signed on behalf of Mr. Watterson. No request for

a hearing or any other response was received from Mr. Watterson nor anyone purporting to represent him in this matter. Therefore, the Deputy Administrator, finding that (1) 30 days having passed since the receipt of the OTSC, and (2) no request for a hearing having been received, concludes that Mr. Watterson has waived his right to a hearing. Having completely reviewed the investigative file in this matter, the Deputy Administrator hereby enters his final order without a hearing, pursuant to 21 CFR 1301.43(d) and (e) and 1301.46.

The Deputy Administrator finds that Mr. Watterson applied with the Tennessee Board of Pharmacy, Department of Commerce and Insurance (Board) for a research license pursuant to the Tennessee Legend Drug and Controlled Substance Research Act of 1984. By letter dated November 27, 2000, the Director of the Board informed Mr. Watterson that "we must deny the issuance of this license because the activity described in your application does not fall with [sic] the parameters delineated by the statute."

The DEA does not have the statutory authority pursuant to the Controlled Substances Act to issue or to maintain a registration if the applicant or registrant is without state authority to handle controlled substances in the state in which he or she practices. See 21 U.S.C. 802(21), 823(f), and 824(a)(3). This prerequisite has been consistently upheld in prior DEA cases. See Graham Travers Schuler, M.D., 65 FR 50,570 (2000); Romeo J. Perez, M.D., 62 FR 16,193 (1997); Demetris A. Green, M.D., 61 FR 60,728 (1996); Dominick A. Ricci, M.D., 58 FR 51,104 (1993).

In the instant case, the Administrator finds the Government has presented undisputed evidence demonstrating that Mr. Watterson is not authorized to handle controlled substances in the State of Tennessee, the state in which he seeks to obtain a DEA registration. As a result, he is not entitled to a DEA registration in that State.

Since DEA does not have the statutory authority to issue Mr. Watterson a DEA registration because he is not currently authorized to handle controlled substances in Tennessee, the Deputy Administrator concludes that it is not necessary to determine whether Mr. Watterson's application is consistent with the public interest.

Accordingly, the Deputy Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, pursuant to the authority vested in him by 21 U.S.C. 823 and 824 and 28 CFR 0.100(b) and 0.104, hereby orders that the application for a DEA Certificate of Registration

submitted by Steven J. Watterson, be, and it hereby is, denied. This order is effective June 17, 2002.

Dated: May 6, 2002.

**John B. Brown III,**

*Deputy Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 02-12356 Filed 5-16-02; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Drug Enforcement Administration

#### **James C. Womack, M.D.; Denial of Application**

On June 4, 2001, the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), issued an Order to Show Cause (OTSC) by certified mail to James C. Womack, M.D., notifying him of an opportunity to show cause as to why the DEA should not deny his application for DEA registration, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 823(f), for reason that Dr. Womack's registration would be inconsistent with the public interest. The OTSC also notified Dr. Womack that should no request for a hearing be filed within 30 days, his right to a hearing would be considered waived.

The OTSC was sent to the address listed on Dr. Womack's application for registration. DEA received a postal return receipt indicating that an individual had signed on behalf of Dr. Womack June 15, 2001. No request for a hearing or any other response was received from Dr. Womack nor anyone purporting to represent him in this matter. Therefore, the Deputy Administrator, finding that (1) 30 days having passed since receipt of the OTSC, and (2) no request for a hearing having been received, concludes that Dr. Womack has waived his right to a hearing. Having considered the complete investigative file in this matter, the Deputy Administrator now enters his final order without a hearing pursuant to 21 CFR 1301.43(d) and (e) and 1301.46.

The Deputy Administrator finds as follows. On November 14, 1985, Dr. Womack was granted a DEA Certificate of Registration as a practitioner in Schedules II through V.

On July 28, 1989, the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners (Board) entered an Agreed Order based on a finding that Dr. Womack was an impaired and recovering physician. The Board suspended his medical license, stayed the suspension, and placed Dr. Womack on probation for ten years, subject to certain terms and conditions. Among the conditions imposed by the

Board was a requirement that Dr. Womack surrender his DEA and Texas State controlled substance registrations. Accordingly, Dr. Womack surrendered his DEA Certificate of Registration on August 31, 1989, as well as his Texas State registration.

Sometime in early 1990, the Board received information that Dr. Womack continued to issue prescriptions for controlled substances using the DEA registration of his father, also a licensed physician in the State of Texas. These prescriptions were not authorized by Dr. Womack's father. Subsequent investigation by DEA revealed that Dr. Womack had issued 701 prescriptions totaling 23,736 dosage units of controlled substances between the time of his surrender of his DEA and Texas State controlled substances registrations and September 5, 1990.

On May 12, 1991, Dr. Womack submitted an application to DEA for registration as a practitioner that was denied. 58 FR 7,248 (1993). On May 9, 1994, Dr. Womack was issued a DEA Certificate of Registration as a practitioner in Schedules II through V.

From February 1997 through January 1999, Dr. Womack was a supervising physician to a physician's assistant at a family practice clinic in Center, Texas, which was approximately 419 miles away from his primary practice in Brandera, Texas. During the time between April 16, 1998, and May 14, 1998, Dr. Womack sought treatment for substance abuse at La Hacienda Treatment Center in Hunt, Texas. During the time of Dr. Womack's treatment, DEA received information that prescriptions for controlled substances were issued and filled under Dr. Womack's DEA registration number. Subsequent information received by DEA indicated that Dr. Womack's physician assistant called in the prescriptions using Dr. Womack's DEA registration number without Dr. Womack's authorization.

On January 6, 1999, Dr. Womack was admitted to the emergency room at a hospital in San Antonio, Texas, and treated for chemical substance toxicity related to his abuse of alcohol and Soma, a non-controlled but addictive substance. On January 18, 1999, Dr. Womack again entered a program for the treatment of substance abuse, in the State of Oregon. As a result, Dr. Womack entered into an Agreed Order with the Board, in which Dr. Womack's medical license was suspended. The Board found, *inter alia*, that Dr. Womack failed to supervise the prescriptive authority of his physician assistant and failed to monitor the clinical responses to narcotic analgesia

prescribed to a patient in September, 1998. On August 28, 1999, the Board denied Dr. Womack's request to stay or lift the suspension based upon Dr. Womack's "history of substance abuse, relapse, and depression."

On February 9, 1999, DEA investigators visited the family practice clinic in Center, Texas, and interviewed Dr. Womack's physician assistant. DEA investigators found three triplicate prescription books, and one triplicate prescription book that contained ten blank pre-signed prescription forms, all in Dr. Womack's name. As a result of the above-described activity, Dr. Womack surrendered his DEA registration on March 16, 1999.

On March 31, 2000, the Board issued an Agreed Order staying the January 29, 1999, suspension of Dr. Womack's medical license, and placed Dr. Womack's medical license on probation for seven years subject to certain terms and conditions.

Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 823(f), the Administrator may deny an application for a DEA Certificate of Registration if he determined that granting the registration would be inconsistent with the public interest. Section 823(f) requires the following factors be considered in determining the public interest:

- (1) The recommendation of the appropriate State licensing board or professional disciplinary authority.
- (2) The applicant's experience in dispensing, or conducting research with respect to controlled substances.
- (3) The applicant's conviction record under Federal or State laws relating to the manufacture, distribution, or dispensing of controlled substances.
- (4) Compliance with applicable State, Federal, or local laws relating to controlled substances.
- (5) Such other conduct which may threaten the public health and safety.

These factors are to be considered in the disjunctive; the Administrator may rely on any one or combination of factors and may give each factor the weight he deems appropriate in determining whether a registration should be revoked or an application for registration be denied, see Henry J. Schwartz, Jr., M.D., 54 FR 16,422 (1989).

The Deputy Administrator finds with regard to factor one that, pursuant to the Agreed Order of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners (Board) effective April 1, 2000, Dr. Womack's medical license was placed on seven year's probation, with extensive terms and conditions. Among the conditions is a requirement that Dr. Womack abstain from the consumption of alcohol, dangerous drugs, or controlled