



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney*

*Eastern District of Pennsylvania*

---

*615 Chestnut Street  
Suite 1250  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-4476  
(215) 861-8200*

For Immediate Release

February 8, 2010

**DR. MARK C. JACKSON SETTLES WITH UNITED STATES OVER  
ILLEGAL PRESCRIPTION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

PHILADELPHIA - Dr. Mark C. Jackson has agreed to pay \$40,000 in fines to the U.S. government over three years and has agreed to restrictions on his future prescription practices in order to settle allegations that he prescribed drugs over the internet, including prescription diet drugs and sleep aids, without meeting or speaking with the individuals to whom the drugs were being prescribed. The settlement agreement was announced today by United States Attorney Michael L. Levy and Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent-in-Charge John J. Bryfonski.

Dr. Jackson, a physician who practices medicine in the Philadelphia area, was accused of prescribing controlled substances over the internet to thousands of individuals. The Controlled Substances Act requires those who prescribe drugs to do so in the usual course of a medical practice, which normally includes personal contact with the recipient of the controlled substances and which generally occurs in the course of a typical doctor-patient relationship. The Act imposes civil penalties for violations of this requirement as an incentive to help DEA combat illegal diversion of these drugs.

“The illegal sale of prescription diet drugs poses a serious threat to the public health,” said Levy. “These drugs, which often contain amphetamines, tend to be abused by teenagers and young adults. When a physician prescribes controlled substances to individuals without having met or spoken with them, he has no way of knowing whether the recipients need those drugs, whether they are acquiring the drugs to sell them on the street, or whether the recipients are even real people. With the power to prescribe comes the duty to prescribe responsibly.”

“It is an extraordinary disgrace, when a Doctor who has taken an oath and is entrusted with helping cure the sick, instead uses his license to deal drugs.” said Bryfonski.

The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration. It is being handled by Assistant United States Attorneys Paul Kaufman and Stacey Smith.

February 8, 2010  
Page 2

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
EASTERN DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA  
Suite 1250, 615 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106**

**Contact: PATTY HARTMAN  
Media Contact  
215-861-8525**

*COPIES OF NEWS MEMOS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT  
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/pae>*