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7th Annual Summit on

# CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

## REGULATION, LITIGATION, AND ENFORCEMENT

*Navigating DEA Rules, State and Federal Enforcement, and Evolving Legal Risk*

**January 26–27, 2026 • Virgin Hotels New York City**

## Conference Co-Chairs

**CORI RIZMAN**
*Vice President of DEA Compliance*
**Ascent Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**
*Former Diversion Group Supervisor*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**JOLIE APICELLA**
*Partner*
**Wiggin and Dana LLP**
*Former AUSA, Chief of Healthcare Fraud*
***Eastern District of New York***

**GUSTAV EYLER**
*Partner*
**Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP**
*Former Director, Consumer Protection Branch, Civil Division*
***U.S. Department of Justice***

## Government Speakers

**MATTHEW FEELEY**
*Chief, USAO SDFL Civil Division*
**U.S. Department of Justice**

**UMAIR KHAN**
*Senior Advisor and Special Counsel*
**Office of the New York State Attorney General**

**HON. JOHN MULROONEY**
*Former Chief Administrative Law Judge*
**Drug Enforcement Administration**

**ELLIOT SCHACHNER**
*Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of New York*
**U.S. Department of Justice**

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The legal and regulatory landscape for controlled substances is in flux—telehealth prescribing rules have been extended to December 31, 2025, the new "*HALT Fentanyl Act*" heads to President Trump's desk, all while recent opioid settlements signal sharper enforcement.

Against this backdrop, **ACI's Controlled Substances – Regulation, Litigation, and Enforcement Summit** is relaunching in NYC on January 26–27, 2026, delivering the essential strategies you need to respond, adapt, and lead.

The 2026 program equips you to navigate a volatile year ahead. Expect insights on DEA enforcement, quota reforms, suspicious order monitoring, and emerging therapies.

## Featured Sessions

- **Inside the Regulator's Playbook:** How DOJ and DEA Are Reshaping Enforcement and Compliance for Controlled Substances
- **The New DEA Pathway:** Operationalizing Special Registration for Virtual Prescribing of Controlled Substances
- **Strengthening SOM:** DEA Expectations, Compliance Gaps, and Due Diligence Strategies for Suspicious Order Monitoring
- **DEA Quota Reform:** Winning Faster Authorizations & Avoiding Delays
- **Navigating the Legal Gray Areas** of Psychedelic-Assisted Mental Health Treatments

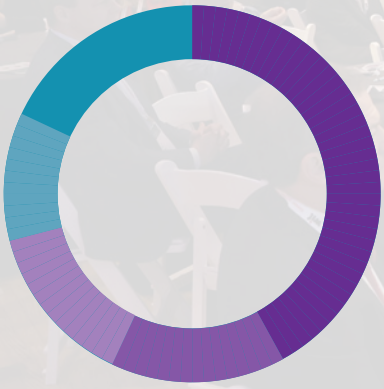
Hear firsthand from regulators, in-house counsel, compliance leaders, and enforcement specialists. Walk away from tailored sessions that empower you to:

- **DECODE** shifting DOJ & DEA priorities to reduce legal and regulatory exposure
- **PREPARE** for telehealth's next chapter under the pending Special Registration rule
- **ALIGN** your SOM programs with new DEA compliance standards
- **MANAGE** supply chain and quota risks through smarter strategies
- **STAY AHEAD** of the prosecution curve as federal and state enforcement intensifies

## What You'll Gain

- **FORWARD-LOOKING INSIGHTS** to shape your 2026 legal, compliance, and operations roadmap
- **PROVEN SOLUTIONS** for telemedicine prescribing, enforcement readiness, and enterprise risk
- **TRUSTED EXPERTISE** from past and current DEA, FDA, DOJ officials, top law firms, and leading in-house teams
- **CROSS-FUNCTIONAL CONNECTIONS** spanning pharma, biotech, telehealth, distributors, retail, and government

# OUR AUDIENCE-AT-A-GLANCE



**42% Pharmaceutical/Biotechnology Research Organizations**
General Counsel, Officers, Executives, Vice Presidents, Directors, and Senior Managers

**15% Hospitals & Healthcare Systems**
General Counsel, Officers, Executives, Vice Presidents, Directors, and Senior Managers

**14% Retail Manufacturers and Pharmacies**
Pharmacists, Officers, Executives, Vice Presidents, Directors, and Senior Manager

**11% Other Industries including:**
- Federal & State Level Government Officials
- Environmental Services
- Logistics Distribution

**19% Outside Counsel/Consultants**

# AGENDA-AT-A-GLANCE

## DAY 1 – Monday, Jan. 26, 2026

### Special Focus: Federal Policy, Enforcement Trends, and DEA Updates

8:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 Opening Remarks from the Co-Chairs

9:15 **Inside the Regulator's Playbook:** How DOJ and DEA are Reshaping Enforcement and Compliance for Controlled Substances

10:00 **SPECIAL REGISTRATION FOR TELEMEDICINE**
**The New DEA Pathway:** Operationalizing Special Registration for Virtual Prescribing of Controlled Substances

11:00 Extended Networking Break

11:30 **Strategies for Compliance:**
Lessons Learned from a Three-Year DEA/DOJ Agreement

12:00 Networking Luncheon

1:15 **SOM ENFORCEMENT**
**Strengthening SOM:** DEA Expectations, Compliance Gaps, and Due Diligence Strategies for Suspicious Order Monitoring

2:15 **Navigating Conflicting Federal and State Laws:**
Winning Strategies to Stay Compliant in a Fragmented Legal Landscape

3:00 Networking Break

3:15 **DEA Quota Reform:** Winning Faster Authorizations & Avoiding Delays

4:00 **SMALL-GROUP BREAKOUT ROUNDTABLES**

1. Enhancing KYC and CDD Programs
2. Operationalizing Compliance in Clinical Settings
3. Inside a DEA Manufacturing Audit
4. Solving SOM Program Pain Points
5. Rapid Round Fire with Your Peers

5:00 Day 1 Concludes to
**Sponsored Networking Cocktail Reception**

## DAY 2 – Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2026

### Special Focus: Industry Risk, Operational Challenges, and Emerging Therapies

8:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 Day 2 Remarks from the Co-Chairs

9:15 **Disrupting the Fentanyl Pipeline:** Combatting Chemical Trafficking and Global Cartel Networks

10:00 **Litigation and Liability in the Post-Settlement Era:**
CSA and FCA Risks in the Opioid Supply Chain

11:00 Networking Break

11:15 **Marijuana Rescheduling and Expanding Therapeutic Use:**
What the Latest Policy Shift Means for the Cannabis Industry

12:00 Networking Luncheon

1:15 **Perspectives From the Bench:** The Ins and Outs of Trying a Diversion Case and Best Practices for Working With Your Outside Counsel

2:00 **EMERGING THERAPEUTICS**
Navigating the Legal Gray Areas of Psychedelic-Assisted Mental Health Treatments

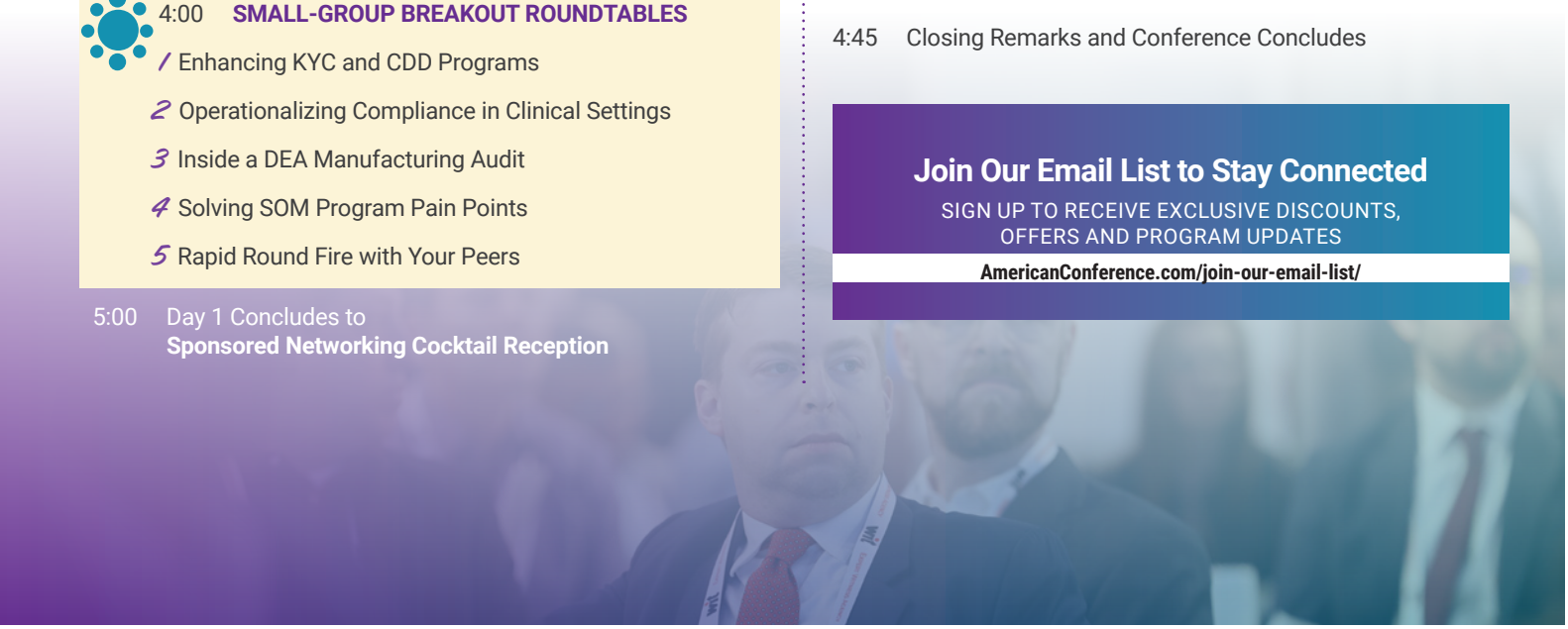
2:45 Networking Break

3:00 **AI ALGORITHMS and ENFORCEMENT**
**Targeting Online Diversion:** CSA Liability for Algorithmic Tools and Marketplace Design

4:00 **ADHD Medication Under Pressure:** Managing Shortages, Diversion Risks, and DEA Scrutiny

4:45 Closing Remarks and Conference Concludes





# SPEAKER FACULTY

## CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

**Cori Rizman**
*Vice President of DEA Compliance*
**Ascent Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**
*Former Diversion Group Supervisor*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Jolie Apicella**
*Partner*
**Wiggin and Dana LLP**
*Former AUSA, Chief of Healthcare Fraud*
***Eastern District of New York***

**Gustav Eyler**
*Partner*
**Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP**
*Former Director, Consumer Protection Branch, Civil Division*
***U.S. Department of Justice***

## GOVERNMENT SPEAKERS

**Matthew Feeley**
*Chief, USAO SDFL Civil Division*
**U.S. Department of Justice**

**Umair Khan**
*Senior Advisor and Special Counsel*
**Office of the New York State Attorney General**

**Hon. John Mulrooney**
*Former Chief Administrative Law Judge*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Elliot Schachner**
*Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of New York*
**U.S. Department of Justice**

## INDUSTRY SPEAKERS & THOUGHT LEADERS

**Charrai Byrd**
*Director of Pharmacy*
**NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital**

**Greg Cutler**
*Manager, DEA Compliance*
**Quva**
*Former Diversion Investigator*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Patricia Derrick**
*Director, Controlled Substance Compliance*
**Thermo Fisher Scientific**

**Robert Ennis**
*Vice President and Lead Compliance Counsel*
**Pfizer**

**Andrew Fuchs**
*Director of Practice Experience and Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice*
**Touro College of Pharmacy**

**Danielle Gordon**
*Assistant General Counsel & Senior Compliance Manager, Controlled Substances*
**Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center**

**Christos Hilas**
*Director, Investigations*
**Pfizer**

**Scott Irelan**
*Vice President, Compliance*
***Morris & Dickson***

**Scott Kurtz**
*Senior Director of Regulatory Affairs*
**McKesson**

**Amanda Liskamm**
*Former Director, Consumer Protection Branch*
***U.S. Department of Justice***
*Former Chief of Staff,* ***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Joseph Nguyen**
*Director of Controlled Substance and Pharmacy Compliance*
**UT Southwestern Medical Center**

**Wilbert Plummer**
*Senior Director, Controlled Substance Compliance*
**Amneal Pharmaceuticals**
*Former Special Agent in Charge, Enforcement Division, New York*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Alexander Polzin**
*Medication Security Specialist, Center for Quality & Patient Safety*
**Seattle Children's**

**Jeffrey Sallet**
*Partner, Investigations & Compliance, Forensic & Integrity Services,* **Ernst & Young LLP**
*Former Associate Deputy Director of the FBI*

**Krista Tongring**
*President, DEA Compliance*
**Guidepost Solutions**

**Eric Triana**
*Chief Compliance Officer & Legal Officer,* **Talkiatry**
*Former Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Operations*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

## LAW FIRM SPEAKERS

**Jennifer Bragg**
*Partner*
**Latham & Watkins LLP**
*Former Associate Chief Counsel for Enforcement*
***U.S. Food and Drug Administration***

**Delia Deschaine**
*Partner*
**Squire Patton Boggs**

**David Feldman**
*Managing Partner*
**Feldman Legal Advisors PLLC**

**Jonathan Havens**
*Partner*
**Saul Ewing LLP**
*Former Regulatory Counsel*
***Food and Drug Administration***

**Andrew Hull**
*Director*
**Hyman, Phelps and McNamara, P.C.**
*Former Assistant U.S. Attorney*
***United States Attorneys' Office***

**Seth Mailhot**
*Partner*
**Barnes & Thornburg LLP**

**Andrew O'Connor**
*Partner*
**Ropes & Gray LLP**

**Arun Rao**
*Partner, Global Investigations & White-Collar Defense*
**Mayer Brown LLP**
*Former Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Consumer Protection Branch*
***U.S. Department of Justice***

**Gabriel Scannapieco**
*Partner*
**Arnall Golden Gregory LLP**
*Former Assistant Director,*
***U.S. Department of Justice***

**Adam Townshend**
*Partner*
**Warner Norcross + Judd LLP**
*Former Assistant U.S. Attorney*
***United States Attorneys' Office***

## CONSULTANTS

**Linden Barber**
*Fellow*
**Sagamore Institute**
*Former Regional Diversion Counsel*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Todd Prough**
*Founder & CEO*
**Controlled Substance Consulting LLC**
*Former Section Chief, Head of Pharmaceutical Investigations*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

# CONFERENCE DAY ONE

Monday, January 26, 2026

> *It was great to hear from current and former industry leaders and experts from DEA, US AG offices, FDA, etc. Hearing about the current events and upcoming trends/expectations was valuable.*
>
> – Kroger Health

## 8:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

## 9:00 Opening Remarks from the Co-Chairs

**Cori Rizman**
*Vice President of DEA Compliance*
**Ascent Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**
*Former Diversion Group Supervisor*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Jolie Apicella**
*Partner*
**Wiggin and Dana LLP**
*Former AUSA,*
*Chief of Healthcare Fraud*
***Eastern District of New York***

**Gustav Eyler**
*Partner*
**Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP**
*Former Director, Consumer Protection Branch, Civil Division*
***U.S. Department of Justice***

## 9:15 Inside the Regulator's Playbook: How DOJ and DEA are Reshaping Enforcement and Compliance for Controlled Substances

With a new administration in office, the regulatory environment for controlled substances is shifting rapidly, with DOJ and DEA ramping up civil and administrative actions, investigations, and policy changes. This session brings together leaders from government to offer clarity on the evolving landscape and what companies need to prioritize in 2026. Topics of discussion will include:

- Tracking joint enforcement priorities across DOJ and DEA to identify compliance vulnerabilities
- Anticipating regulatory risks tied to prescribing, distribution, and telehealth
- Interpreting recent spikes in civil and administrative actions to benchmark internal protocols
- Navigating interagency collaboration and the resulting effects on audits, subpoenas, and show cause orders
- Implementing practical, regulator-informed strategies to reduce enforcement exposure

**Matthew Feeley**
*Chief, USAO SDFL Civil Division*
**U.S. Department of Justice**

**MODERATOR:**
**Gustav Eyler**
*Partner*
**Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP**
*Former Director, Consumer Protection Branch, Civil Division*
***U.S. Department of Justice***

**SPECIAL REGISTRATION FOR TELEMEDICINE**

## 10:00 The New DEA Pathway: Operationalizing Special Registration for Virtual Prescribing of Controlled Substances

With DEA's proposed Special Registration Rule expected to be finalized by January 2026, practitioners could soon prescribe controlled substances via telemedicine without an initial in-person exam. This flexibility brings new federal requirements, operational burdens, and legal complexities across jurisdictions. This session breaks down where the rule stands, and how to prepare now. Topics of discussion include:

- Understanding the requirements under 21 CFR §1301and the impact on prescribers and platforms
- Navigating the patchwork of state laws that may restrict or expand prescribing
- Preparing for compliance challenges tied to Schedule II substances and documentation standards
- Adapting internal policies and workflows to align with evolving DEA telemedicine frameworks

**Eric Triana**
*Chief Compliance Officer & Legal Officer*
**Talkiatry**
*Former Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Operations, Diversion Control Division*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Elliot Schachner**
*Assistant U.S. Attorney,*
*Eastern District of New York*
**U.S. Department of Justice**

## 11:00 Extended Networking Break

**Linden Barber**
*Fellow*
**Sagamore Institute**
*Former Regional Diversion Counsel*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

## 11:30 **Strategies for Compliance:** Lessons Learned from a Three-Year DEA/DOJ Agreement

Navigating a multi-year DEA/DOJ agreement offers a rare window into the operational realities of long-term regulatory oversight. Organizations that have undergone such scrutiny emerge with hard-earned insights into what works—and what fails—when it comes to building resilient compliance frameworks. This session will unpack the lessons learned from a three-year agreement, including:

- How transparency, documentation, and proactive engagement help reshape relationships with DEA and DOJ
- Key enhancements to suspicious order monitoring systems that meet federal expectations and reduce diversion risk
- Lessons in cross-functional alignment by bridging compliance, legal and operations
- Strategies for maintaining momentum and embedding compliance culture on the heels of ending formal oversight

**Joseph Nguyen**
*Director of Controlled Substance and Pharmacy Compliance*
**UT Southwestern Medical Center**

**Alexander Polzin**
*Medication Security Specialist, Center for Quality & Patient Safety*
**Seattle Children's**

## 12:00 Networking Luncheon

SOM ENFORCEMENT

## 1:15 **Strengthening SOM:** DEA Expectations, Compliance Gaps, and Due Diligence Strategies for Suspicious Order Monitoring

With DEA enforcement on the rise, vague SOM standards are no longer a shield. This session unpacks recent administrative actions and equips you with the tools you need to upgrade your due diligence framework before you're in the spotlight. Topics of discussion will include:

- Enhancing your organization's due diligence standards and navigating new reporting and recordkeeping requirements
- Decoding the latest SOM-related administrative actions enforced by the DEA
- Clarifying SOM obligations for manufacturers and 503B outsourcing facilities
- Leveraging data analytics and algorithms to identify red flags before DEA does
- Aligning SOM programs with DSCSA to reduce overlapping risk exposure

**Scott Irelan**
*Vice President, Compliance*
***Morris & Dickson***

**Christos Hilas**
*Director, Investigations*
**Pfizer**

**Scott Kurtz**
*Senior Director of Regulatory Affairs*
**McKesson**

**Todd Prough**
*Founder & CEO*
**Controlled Substance Consulting LLC**
*Former Section Chief, Head of Pharmaceutical Investigations*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

MODERATED BY:
**Krista Tongring**
*President, DEA Compliance*
**Guidepost Solutions**

## 2:15 **Navigating Conflicting Federal and State Laws:** Winning Strategies to Stay Compliant in a Fragmented Legal Landscape

Conflicting federal and state regulations on controlled substances continue to create major compliance risks. This session offers actionable strategies to help you bridge the gaps and protect your organization in 2026. Topics of discussion include:

- Interpreting DEA guidance on meeting state-specific requirements
- Implementing practical solutions to manage conflicting legal obligations
- Reducing risk from heightened enforcement of dispensing activities
- Spotting red flags in pharmacy and prescriber behavior to prevent diversion

**Delia Deschaine**
*Partner*
**Squire Patton Boggs**

**Adam Townshend**
*Partner*
**Warner Norcross + Judd LLP**
*Former Assistant U.S. Attorney,*
***United States Attorneys' Office***

## 3:00 Networking Break

American Conference Institute

For over 40 years, American Conference Institute has provided the opportunities that bring together business leaders, professionals and international experts from around the world to learn, meet, network and make the contacts that create the opportunities. Our conferences and related products connect the power of people with the power of information, a powerful combination for business growth and success.

## 3:15 DEA Quota Reform: Winning Faster Authorizations & Avoiding Delays

The DEA's updated quota system includes quarterly allocations for Schedule I/II substances, reduced inventory allowances, and stricter thresholds for slowdowns or suspensions. This session arms manufacturers and distributors with proven playbooks to secure quota approvals smoothly and efficiently, without regulatory roadblocks. Topics of discussion include:

- Decoding DEA's revised quota structure and inventory limits
- Tracking current and proposed rules for Schedule I/II and List I chemicals
- Optimizing quota applications and fast-tracking approvals
- Leveraging ARCOS Online for compliance monitoring and reporting

**Wilbert Plummer**
*Senior Director, Controlled Substance Compliance*
**Amneal Pharmaceuticals**
*Former Special Agent in Charge, Enforcement Division, New York*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Patricia Derrick**
*Director, Controlled Substance Compliance*
**Thermo Fisher Scientific**

## 4:00 SMALL-GROUP BREAKOUT ROUNDTABLES

Join your peers in small-group, moderated sessions designed for high-impact dialogue, candid benchmarking, and actionable takeaways. Choose the topic and table that best matches your role, challenges, and priorities.

### 1 Enhancing KYC and CDD Programs

Sharpen your Know Your Customer and Customer Due Diligence strategies with practical steps to reduce risk and meet new expectations.

**Robert Ennis**
*Vice President and Lead Compliance Counsel*
**Pfizer**

### 2 Operationalizing Compliance in Clinical Settings

**Charrai Byrd**
*Director of Pharmacy*
**NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital**

### 3 Inside a DEA Manufacturing Audit

Walk through the audit process from start to finish while identifying red flags and must-have documentation.

**Greg Cutler**
*Manager, DEA Compliance,* **Quva**
*Former Diversion Investigator,* ***Drug Enforcement Administration***

### 4 Solving SOM Program Pain Points

Bring your toughest questions and challenges to build smarter, more efficient SOM programs

**Andrew O'Connor**
*Partner*
**Ropes & Gray LLP**

### 5 Rapid Round Fire with Your Peers

Connect in this free-flowing, interactive think tank to exchange your top ten compliance headaches and hear what's keeping your peers up at night.

**Danielle Gordon**
*Assistant General Counsel & Senior Compliance Manager, Controlled Substances*
**Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center**

## 5:00 Day 1 Concludes to Networking Cocktail Reception

**EARN CLE CREDITS**

Accreditation will be sought in those jurisdictions requested by the registrants which have continuing education requirements. This course is identified as nontransitional for the purposes of CLE accreditation.

ACI certifies this activity has been approved for CLE credit by the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board.

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ACI has a dedicated team which processes requests for state approval. Please note that event accreditation varies by state and ACI will make every effort to process your request.

For more information on ACI's CLE process, visit: www.AmericanConference.com/Accreditation/CLE

# CONFERENCE DAY TWO

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

> *As the Director of Compliance, I was extremely pleased with last year's speakers and the insight they provided into the latest controlled substance regulations.*
>
> – Independent Pharmacy Cooperative

## 8:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

## 9:00 Opening Remarks from the Co-Chairs

**Cori Rizman**
*Vice President of DEA Compliance*
**Ascent Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**
*Former Diversion Group Supervisor*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Jolie Apicella**
*Partner*
**Wiggin and Dana LLP**
*Former AUSA,*
*Chief of Healthcare Fraud*
***Eastern District of New York***

**Gustav Eyler**
*Partner*
**Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP**
*Former Director, Consumer Protection Branch, Civil Division*
***U.S. Department of Justice***

## 9:15 **Disrupting the Fentanyl Pipeline:** Combatting Chemical Trafficking and Global Cartel Networks

Fentanyl continues to dominate overdose deaths in North America, with bad-actors exploiting precursor chemical loopholes, commercial supply chains, and weak international coordination. This session breaks down the evolving global landscape and what legal, compliance, and enforcement professionals can do to disrupt it. Topics of discussion include:

- Identifying weak links in the precursor chemical supply chain and mislabeling tactics
- Tracking how transnational cartels use commercial shipping and freight routes to distribute fentanyl
- Navigating conflicting U.S. and global enforcement approaches to fentanyl-specific regulation
- Strengthening enforcement through sanctions, private-sector partnerships, and real-time intelligence sharing

**Jeffrey Sallet**
*Partner, Investigations & Compliance, Forensic & Integrity Services*
**Ernst & Young LLP**
*Former Associate Deputy Director of the FBI*

**Amanda Liskamm**
*Former Director, Consumer Protection Branch,* ***U.S. Department of Justice***
*Former Chief of Staff*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Arun Rao**
*Partner, Global Investigations & White-Collar Defense*
**Mayer Brown LLP**
*Former Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Consumer Protection Branch,* ***U.S. Department of Justice***

## 10:00 **Litigation and Liability in the Post-Settlement Era:** CSA and FCA Risks in the Opioid Supply Chain

Following the *Purdue Pharma* bankruptcy and landmark opioid settlements, the litigation landscape continues to evolve. This session explores how the DOJ and DEA are using the *Controlled Substances Act* and the *False Claims Act* in tandem to hold companies accountable, and what manufacturers, distributors, healthcare providers, and their counsel must do to stay ahead of the next wave of litigation. Topics of discussion include:

- Interpreting the key takeaways from the Purdue bankruptcy and settlement terms
- Identifying how *CSA* and *FCA* enforcement are converging to target systemic failures
- Prioritizing compliance strategies that demonstrate patient safety over profit motives
- Reducing liability exposure through proactive internal audits and documentation

**Umair Khan**
*Senior Advisor and Special Counsel*
**Office of the New York State Attorney General**

**Jennifer Bragg**
*Partner*
**Latham & Watkins LLP**
*Former Associate Chief Counsel for Enforcement*
***U.S. Food and Drug Administration***

**Jolie Apicella**
*Partner*
**Wiggin and Dana LLP**
*Former Chief, Civil Health Care Fraud, Eastern District of New York,* ***United States Attorney's Office***

## 11:00 Networking Break

## 11:15 **Marijuana Rescheduling and Expanding Therapeutic Use:** What the Latest Policy Shift Means for the Cannabis Industry

The federal government is actively considering rescheduling marijuana from a Schedule I to a Schedule III controlled substance, a move that would acknowledge its medical value and significantly ease restrictions on research, taxation, and access. This shift could transform cannabis from a stigmatized drug into a regulated therapeutic option, paving the way for expanded clinical trials and FDA oversight of treatments for conditions like chronic pain, epilepsy, and multiple sclerosis. As the DEA navigates legal and political hurdles, we will discuss how this outcome could redefine cannabis's role in medicine, law, and the economy.

**Jonathan Havens**
*Partner,* **Saul Ewing LLP**
*Former Regulatory Counsel*
***Food and Drug Administration***

**David Feldman**
*Managing Partner*
**Feldman Legal Advisors PLLC**

## 12:00 Networking Luncheon

## 1:15 **Perspectives From the Bench:** The Ins and Outs of Trying a Diversion Case and Best Practices for Working With Your Outside Counsel

This session offers a unique opportunity to hear directly from the judiciary about the challenges, expectations, and strategic considerations involved in trying a diversion case. Attendees will also gain practical guidance on effectively collaborating with outside counsel to navigate these complex proceedings. Key topics include:

- Judicial insights into courtroom dynamics and diversion case strategy
- Common pitfalls and how to avoid them when preparing for a diversion case
- Tips for aligning internal legal teams with external counsel
- Best practices for working with your outside counsel

**Hon. John Mulrooney**
*Former Chief Administrative Law Judge*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

MODERATOR:
**Andrew Hull**
*Director,* **Hyman, Phelps and McNamara, P.C.**
*Former Assistant U.S. Attorney*
***United States Attorneys' Office***

EMERGING THERAPEUTICS

## 2:00 Navigating the Legal Gray Areas of Psychedelic-Assisted Mental Health Treatments

As psychedelic therapies like MDMA, psilocybin, LSD, and ketamine move closer to mainstream acceptance, legal and compliance professionals face a patchwork of unclear laws and heightened enforcement risks. This session will examine how companies can responsibly navigate the regulatory unknowns. Topics of discussion include:

- Reconciling federal, state, and international regulations around psychedelic use
- Responding to DEA scrutiny, rescheduling activity, and provider enforcement risks
- Balancing clinical promise with the critical need for robust oversight, recordkeeping, and documentation
- Implementing forward-looking strategies for clinical governance and policy alignment

**David Wood**
*Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel*
**Psygen Industries Ltd.**

**Seth Mailhot**
*Partner*
**Barnes & Thornburg LLP**

## 2:45 Networking Break

AI, ALGORITHMS & ENFORCEMENT

## 3:00 **Targeting Online Diversion:** CSA Liability for Algorithmic Tools and Marketplace Design

Digital marketplaces and online platforms are facing increased scrutiny from the DEA and DOJ for how algorithmic features and search design can facilitate diversion. This session will examine growing legal exposure under the CSA, and the emerging compliance strategies to reduce platform and third-party liability. Topics of discussion include:

- Understanding how platform design, algorithms, and listings can trigger CSA enforcement
- Reviewing recent DEA and DOJ actions against digital intermediaries and vendors
- Identifying high-risk features like search optimization and content ranking algorithms
- Auditing and remediating tools that may enable diversion
- Building a defensible, compliance-first approach for platform operators

**Gabriel Scannapieco**
*Partner*
**Arnall Golden Gregory LLP**
*Former Assistant Director,*
***U.S. Department of Justice***

## 4:00 **ADHD Medication Under Pressure:** Managing Shortages, Diversion Risks, and DEA Scrutiny

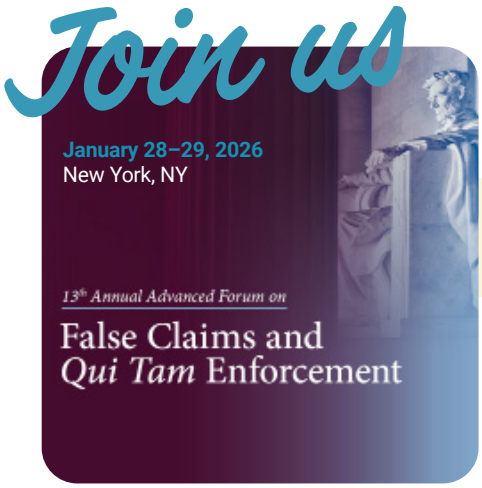
The spike in ADHD diagnoses and sustained stimulant shortages have raised serious concerns around access, compliance, and diversion. This session unpacks the regulatory, clinical, and operational challenges facing manufacturers, prescribers, and pharmacies amid growing enforcement and quota constraints. Topics of discussion include:

- Detecting and preventing stimulant diversion amid increased prescribing
- Navigating quota limits, inventory gaps, and DEA supply oversight
- Improving transparency, coordination, and patient care under pressure

**Cori Rizman**
*Vice President of DEA Compliance*
**Ascent Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**
*Former Diversion Group Supervisor*
***Drug Enforcement Administration***

**Andrew Fuchs**
*Director of Practice Experience and Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice*
**Touro College of Pharmacy**

## 4:45 Closing Remarks and Conference Concludes




## for a full week of lively discussion around Controlled Substances and FCA Enforcement!

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# Upcoming Events


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New York, NY


**March 2026**
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