

# DEA settles Walgreens painkiller case for \$80M

June 11 2013, by Curt Anderson

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The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration has reached an \$80 million civil settlement with the Walgreens pharmacy chain over violations of rules governing the distribution of powerful prescription painkillers.

DEA officials said Tuesday that Walgreens committed numerous record-keeping and dispensing violations of the Controlled Substances Act. That allowed drugs such as oxycodone to be improperly sold to abusers and for [illegal sales](#) on the black market.

Walgreens is the nation's largest [pharmacy chain](#) with more than 8,000 stores. A spokesman at the Deerfield, Ill.-based company said a statement would be issued later.

Florida has been a major East Coast source of highly addictive painkillers. An ongoing crackdown in recent years including numerous arrests has reduced the number of illegal "pill mills" operating in the state.

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Citation: DEA settles Walgreens painkiller case for \$80M (2013, June 11) retrieved 4 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2013-06-dea-walgreens-painkiller-case-80m.html>

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