



Board of Supervisors

1221 Oak Street – Oakland, CA 94612

For Immediate Release
May 26, 2015

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Press Conference Announcement

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES DECLINES TO HEAR PHRMA V. COUNTY OF ALAMEDA (SAFE DRUG DISPOSAL ORDINANCE)

*Alameda County leaders to speak on Court decision and urge
pharmaceutical industry's help in making take-back program a success*

WHAT: The U.S. Supreme Court issued an order today denying certiorari in *PhRMA v. County of Alameda* and leaving in place the 9th Circuit Federal Court of Appeals decision upholding the US District Court's decision in favor of Alameda County's Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance, passed in 2012.

The ordinance is the first in the nation to require drug manufacturers to be responsible for disposal costs of unused medicines.

The lawsuit, filed by trade associations representing the manufacturers and distributors of pharmaceutical products, argued that the ordinance violated the dormant Commerce Clause of the US Constitution as it interfered with interstate commerce. The US District Court found that the Ordinance serves a legitimate public health and safety interest and the relatively modest costs to producers do not unduly burden interstate commerce.

Today, County of Alameda leaders are calling on the pharmaceutical industry to assist in making the take-back program a success in Alameda County and in creating a model program that can be followed by the rest of the country.

WHEN: Tuesday, May 26, 2015
3:30 p.m.

WHERE: Board of Supervisors Chambers – Fifth Floor
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612

WHO: Wilma Chan, Vice President, Alameda County Board of Supervisors
Nate Miley, Alameda County Supervisor, District 4
Nancy O'Malley, Alameda County District Attorney
Donna Ziegler, Alameda County Counsel