

## San Francisco Walgreens Opioid Litigation Documents – Opioids Impact on San Francisco

**Summary:** [Judge Charles R. Breyer](#)'s decision found Walgreens liable for contributing to a “public nuisance” – the ongoing opioid epidemic – in San Francisco, California. Collection documents illustrate Walgreens’ actions, or lack thereof, to address the opioid epidemic, as well as its impact on the city of San Francisco and its public spaces.

### Select Documents of Relevance

**Document Title:** DEA Compliance Review – Woodland Distribution Center

**OIDA ID:** <https://www.idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=kjvx0257>

**Date:** 2008-02

**Description:** Walgreens’ Internal Audit team performed an audit of the Woodland (CA) distribution center in January 2008, to assess whether the distribution center was in compliance with federal regulations. The audit team reported various forms of non-compliance, including multiple instances where the distribution center was shipping suspicious controlled substance orders without investigation, and that Walgreens lacked a monitoring process to stop and assess suspicious orders.

**Document Title:** Re: Fwd: Ref:#12906940

**OIDA ID:** <https://www.idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=ygcx0257>

**Date:** 2011-01

**Description:** Johnny Chin, pharmacy manager, explains to Calvin Yeung, district manager for pharmacy & retail operations, that his Walgreens location stopped filling prescriptions from Dr. Guido Gores in 2019 due to red flag prescribing habits. Gores surrendered his medical license in February 2021.

**Document Title:** Bay Area/San Francisco, CA, 1/2006-6/2020, Walgreens as Dispenser, Nine Prescription Opioids: Codeine, Fentanyl, Hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Methadone, Morphine, Oxycodone, Oxymorphone, Tapentadol

**OIDA ID:** <https://www.idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=zgwx0257>

**Date:** Unknown

**Description:** Graphs illustrate Walgreens’ dispensing data on nine prescription opioids. Hydrocodone stands out as the most frequently dispensed (and was documented by the DEA

as one of the most abused drugs), but trial testimonies and exhibits document that the opioid is not identified on Walgreens' Target Drug List that triggered additional review before dispensing.

**Document Title:** Declaration of Victor Lo, Pharma.D.

**OIDA ID:** <https://www.idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=htmh0257>

**Date:** 2022-05

**Description:** Lo's declaration summarizes problems he encountered in his ten years working at Walgreens, including pressure to fill prescriptions, inadequate staffing, lack of training, and lack of tools and resources to identify suspicious prescribing patterns. His observations are echoed in declarations by several other pharmacists.

**Document Title:** Declaration of Elizabeth Akhparyan Park, Pharma.D., APH

**OIDA ID:** <https://www.idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=jtmh0257>

**Date:** 2022-05

**Description:** As a plaintiff's pharmacy expert, Park reviewed a sample of prescriptions produced by Walgreens in litigation, along with due diligence materials from Walgreens pharmacies, and concluded that Walgreens did not meet the California Standard of Practice. By her analysis, she found evidence of an appropriate effort to resolve red flags in fewer than 5% of cases—meaning 95% of the prescriptions should not have been filled. Walgreens' objections to Park's declaration are included in the document.

**Document Title:** Non-Exhaustive Summary of Prescribers Disciplined for Opioid Misconduct and Prescriptions Filled by Walgreens

**OIDA ID:** <https://www.idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=hsph0257>

**Date:** 2022-07

**Description:** Drawing from processed Walgreens dispensing data (2006-2020) and publicly available documents, the plaintiffs presented this spreadsheet that shows 161,696 opioid prescriptions were filled from 31 suspicious and high-volume prescribers, all of whom faced discipline for their prescribing practices.

**Document Title:** Declaration of Sandra "Sandy" Tong, Assistant Deputy Chief of Emergency Medical Services, San Francisco Fire Department

**OIDA ID:** <https://www.idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=ltmh0257>

**Date:** 2022-05

**Description:** Tong describes how the opioid crisis has worsened in her years with Emergency Medical Services (EMS). She notes that it has been so bad in some neighborhoods that rather than waiting for calls, their Street Wellness Response Team "proactively canvasses" and "intervenes with individuals on the street who appear to be sedated or unresponsive."

**Document Title:** Declaration of Michael Lambert, San Francisco City Librarian

**OIDA ID:** <https://www.idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=xtmh0257>

**Date:** 2022-05

**Description:** Lambert explains the impact of the opioid epidemic on the San Francisco Public Library (SFPL). The library has updated its code of conduct to address drug use, added sharps containers for used needles, trained library staff in CPR and administering naloxone, and increased security measures.

#### OIDA Identification Numbers for Additional Relevant Documents

- ptmh0257
- qtmh0257
- ktmh0257
- ftmh0257
- gtmh0257
- mtyh0257
- mtmh0257
- ytmh0257
- ztmh0257
- fzmh0257
- gzmh0257
- hzmh0257
- xzmh0257
- mzmh0257
- yzmh0257
- lkph0257