

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense announced today, September 19, 2001, that David Jett, Mount Pleasant, NC, sales representative, Indigo Laser Corporation, a Johnson & Johnson subsidiary was sentenced in U.S. District Court, Hartford, CT, to 3 years probation, a fine of \$26,870.04, and ordered to pay a special assessment of \$100, as well as the cost of probation.

Jett had previously pled guilty to a 1-count criminal information charging conspiracy in connection with a violation of the prescription drug marketing act (unlicensed wholesaling of prescription drugs).

This sentence is the result of an ongoing investigation into pharmaceutical drug diversion, kickback payments, false claims and mail fraud between physicians, pharmaceutical drug representatives and pharmaceutical drug wholesalers. The drug Lupron, an oncology pharmaceutical normally prescribed for prostate cancer patients, was diverted by physicians with assistance from David Jett, to circumvent Federally controlled pricing markets for profit. This diversion actually lowered the acquisition cost of Lupron and the cost savings were not reflected in health care claim submissions for reimbursement to Medicare, Tricare and private health insurance carriers as provided by Federal regulation. David Jett received kickback payments for his efforts in the scheme.