



FDA Assistance to Industry

Marie Falcone

FDA ORA CER Small Business Representative

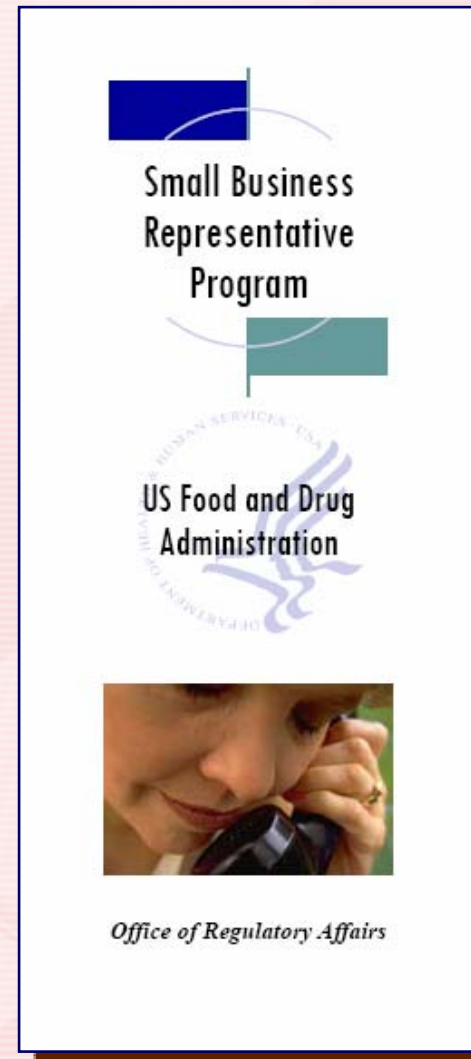
Presentation Agenda

1. The Small Business Representative
2. Staying informed
3. Solving problems
4. Communicating your views to the agency



The Small Business Representative

- Assist industry and entrepreneurs
 - Facilitate access to guidance, policies, regulations, and laws enforced by FDA
 - Provide technical assistance
 - Act as liaison



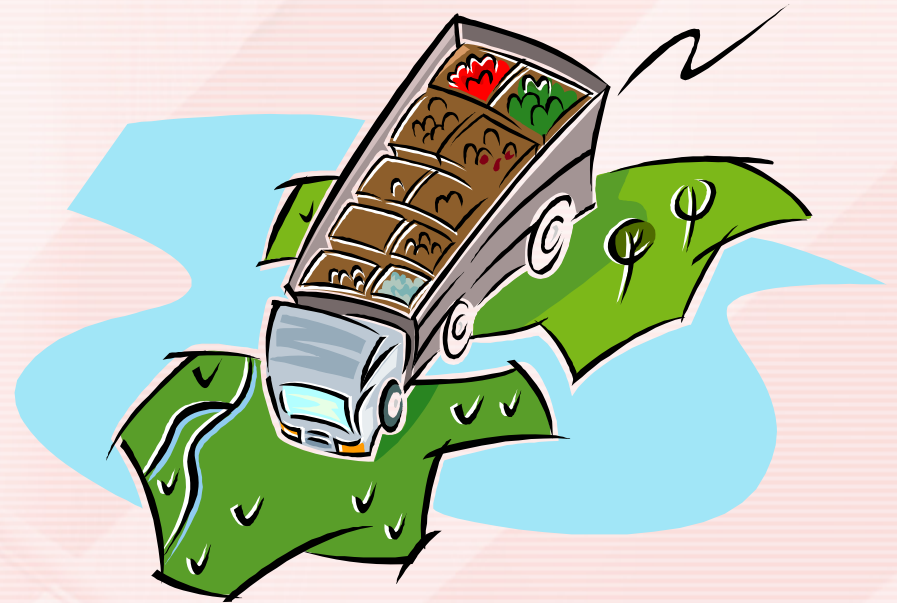
SBR Customers

- Small businesses
- Entrepreneurs
- Start-ups
- Professional associations
- Industry associations
- Consultants
- Corporations



FDA Jurisdiction

- Foods
- Drugs
- Biologics
- Cosmetics
- Medical devices
- Veterinary products
- Radiation-emitting products



SBR On-Site Visits

- Voluntary review
- At industry's request
- Confidential
- cursory, brief
- Limited by schedule and budget



SBR Confidentiality

- All FDA employees are prohibited by law from divulging trade secret or confidential information



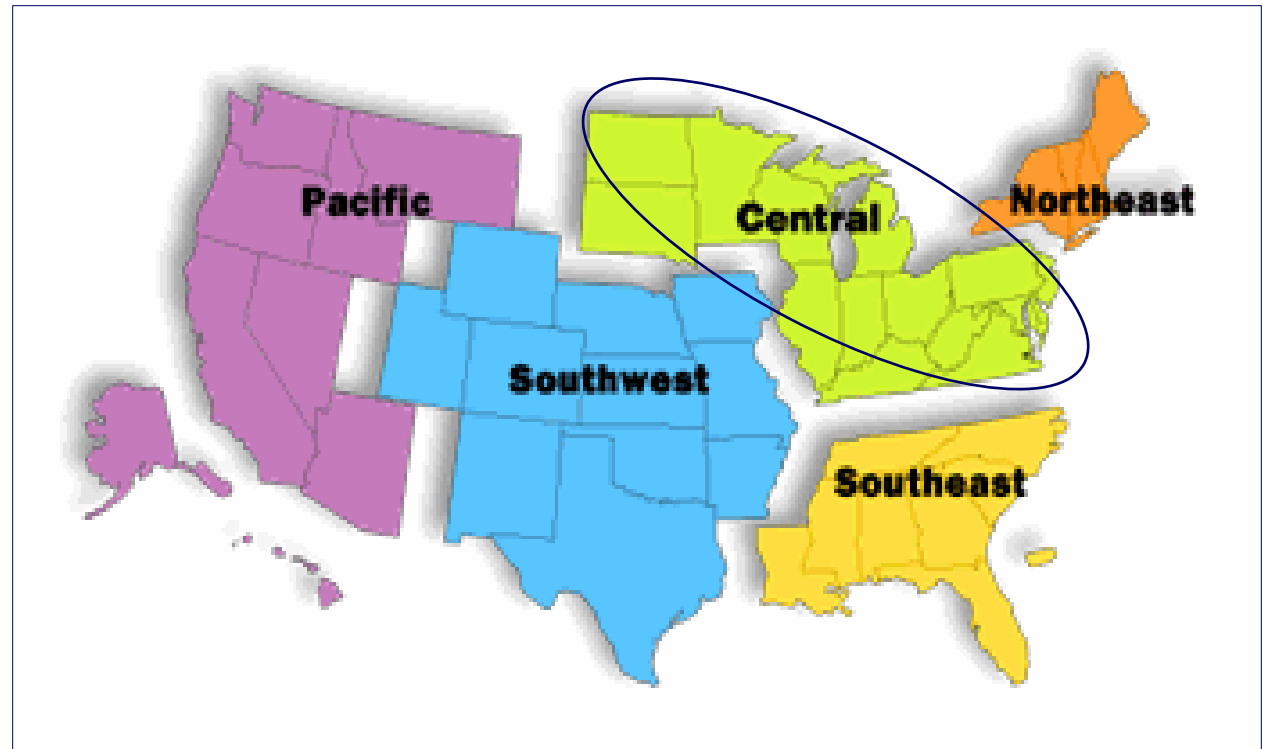
SBR Limitations

- Not available when an open inspection reveals conditions that may warrant enforcement action
 - FDA 483 objectionable observations
 - Warning letter
 - Import detention



SBR Geographical Limitations

- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Kentucky
- Maryland
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- New Jersey
- North Dakota
- Ohio



- Pennsylvania
- South Dakota
- Virginia
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin





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Small Business Guide to FDA (last revised on 03/31/04)

SMALL BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES (SBRs)

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FDA, **Southeast Region (AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, PR, SC, TN, VI)**



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Dietary Supplements...

Drugs

Prescription, Over-the-
Counter, Generic...

Medical Devices

Pacemakers, Contact
Lenses, Hearing Aids...

Biologics

Vaccines, Blood Products...

Animal Feed and Drugs

Livestock, Pets...

Cosmetics

Safety, Labeling...



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[FDA/NCI Program to Bridge Research, Regulation in Cancer Product Development](#)

[New Improvements in FDA's Drug Safety Monitoring Announced](#)

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Small Business Guide to the FDA

- How to obtain statutes, regulations, and agency documents
- How to use the Federal Register
- How to comment on proposed regulations
- How to petition the FDA
- What to do when marketing a new product, undergoing FDA inspection, recalling violative products, etc.

Build a Regulatory Library

- Laws
- Regulations (CFR)
- Federal Register
- Guidance Documents
- Forms
- Dockets
- Warning Letters
- Manuals and Publications
- Email Subscriptions





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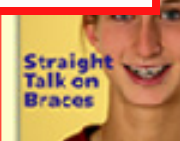
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What are Laws?

- The basic enabling authority enacted by Congress
 - Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FD&C)
 - FDA Modernization Act (FDAMA)
 - Orphan Drug Act
 - Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA)
 - Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act (MDUFMA)



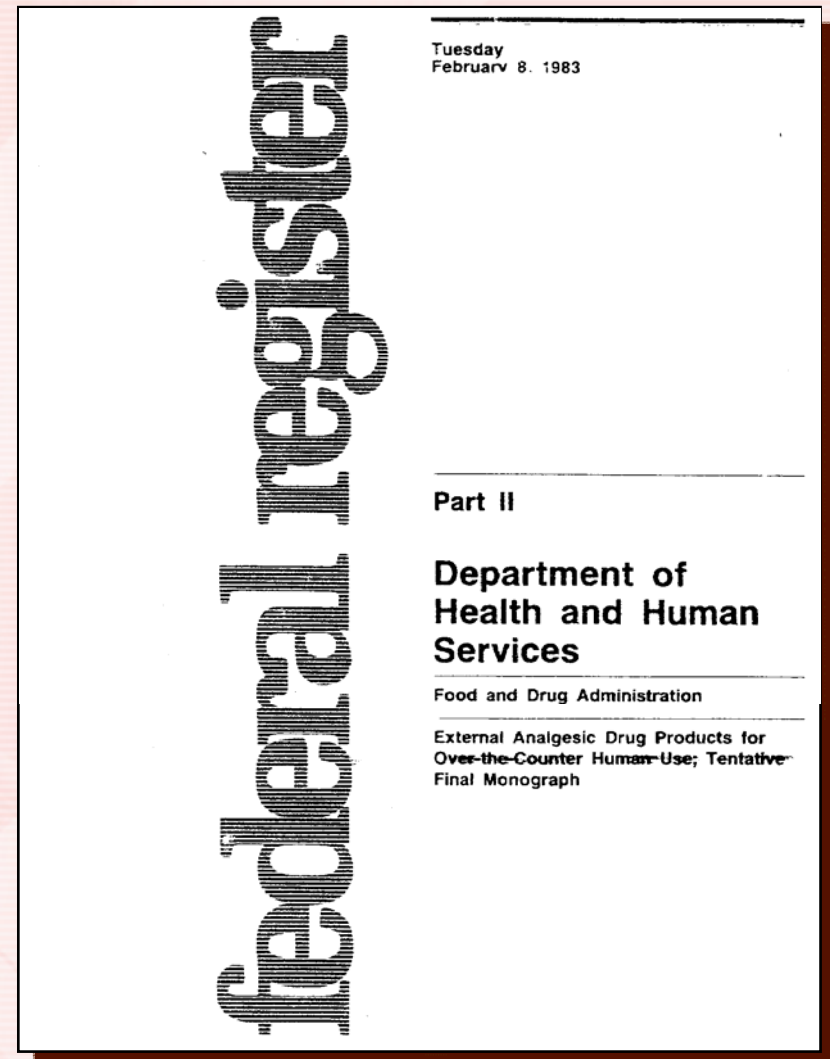
What are Regulations?

- Implement the provisions of the law based on the authority provided by the law
- The development of regulations must follow specific procedures that allow public notice and comment
- Legally binding on industry and the agency



The Federal Register

- Official daily publication
 - Notices
 - Proposed Rules
 - Final Rules
- Free online through <http://www.gpo.gov> or <http://www.fda.gov>
- GPO subscription



The Code of Federal Regulations

- Title 21
Food and Drugs
- Published yearly
- Free online through
 - <http://www.gpo.gov>
 - <http://www.fda.gov>
- Order through GPO
at 1-866-512-1800



Semi-Annual Unified Agenda

- Identifies regulations under development throughout the federal government
- Primarily ANPRM, NPRM, and Final Rule expected in the next 12 months
- Published twice a year
 - <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/ua/>
- Most recently on October 31, 2005
 - FR Vol. 70, No. 209



Semi-Annual Unified Agenda

- Status of regulation
 - Pre-Rule Stage: agency to determine whether or how to initiate rulemaking
 - Proposed Rule Stage: NPRM not issued yet
 - Final Rule Stage: Final or Interim Final Rule not issued yet
 - Long Term Actions



FDA Semi-Annual Unified Agenda

- The FDA portion of the Semi-Annual Unified Agenda
- <http://www.fda.gov/oc/industry/unifiedagenda/agenda.html>



Guidance Documents...

...Policy Statements and Advisory Opinions

- Serve to provide the Agency's interpretation of the law and applicable regulations
- The preamble to a regulation has the status of an advisory opinion
- Are not legally binding on the public or the agency



Applicable Guidance

- FDA Comprehensive List of Guidance Documents, FR 1/5/2005
 - <http://www.fda.gov/OHRMS/DOCKETS/98fr/05-155.htm>
 - <http://www.fda.gov/opacom/morechoices/industry/guidedc.htm>
- Additional listings under each Center web site



Obsolete Guidance

- Watch out for new, revised, and withdrawn guidance documents
- Expired documents remain online for historic reference
- Most documents will state if they have been superseded by newer or revised documents



Expected Guidance

- FDA Annual Guidance Agenda
 - Most recent published on the Federal Register of July 9, 2004
 - <http://www.fda.gov/OHRMS/DOCKETS/98fr/04-15660.htm>
 - Contains possible guidance topics
 - Organized by Center, then category

<http://www.fda.gov/OHRMS/DOCKETS/98fr/04-15660.htm>



FDA Annual Guidance Agenda

- Example from the July 9, 2004, issue
 - Centralized Institutional Review Boards in Multicenter Trials
- Once a draft guidance document issues, FDA assigns a unique Docket Number
- This document opens a comment period that is usually of 60 days



FDA Public Meetings and Workshops

- Announced in the Federal Register
- Posted in many professional and industry association web sites and newsletters
- Broadcasted in various FDA mailing lists
- Publicized throughout the FDA and Center web sites



On the FDA Web Site

<http://www.fda.gov/>

- [opacom/hpmeetings.html](http://www.fda.gov/opacom/hpmeetings.html)
- [cder/calendar/](http://www.fda.gov/cder/calendar/)
- [cdrh/dsma/workshop.html](http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/dsma/workshop.html)
- [cber/meetings.htm](http://www.fda.gov/cber/meetings.htm)
- [cfsan.fda.gov/~lrd/vidtel.html](http://www.fda.gov/cfsan.fda.gov/~lrd/vidtel.html)



FDA Mailing List Subscriptions

- Free e-mail newsletters
- Most are listed here:
 - <http://www.fda.gov/emaillist.html>
- FDA GCPP mailing list:
 - <http://www.fda.gov/oc/gcp/>
- CDER Small Business mailing list:
 - <http://www.fda.gov/cder/about/smallbiz/default.htm>



Documents Through FOIA

- Documents not originally prepared for public distribution are available under the Freedom of Information Act
- Documents are purged of confidential and trade secret information
- FDA assesses fees to cover costs of document research, redaction, reproduction, and mailing
- No phone or e-mail requests



Freedom of Information Requests

- Use the “Handbook for FOI Requests”
 - <http://www.fda.gov/opacom/backgrounders/foiahand.html>
- Mail to:
FDA FOI Staff (HFI-35)
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857
- Fax to:
301-443-1726



Contacting the Centers

- Visit the GCP contacts page at www.fda.gov/oc/gcp/contactogcp.html
Refer to your handouts
- Contact your regional Small Business Representative for referral information



Comment on Proposed Rules, etc.

- Visit the Division of Dockets Management at <http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/>
- Search using the docket number or browse the docket list by year
 - Use the list of dockets with comment periods closing in the next 2 months
 - Insert Docket Number into Federal Register search box to get comment closing date
- Comment electronically online



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Solving Problems

1. Communicate with the FDA Investigator
2. Contact the Supervisor
3. Contact the Branch Director
4. Contact the District Director
5. Contact the Regional Office
6. Contact the FDA Ombudsman
7. Contact the National Ombudsman



Contact Information Resources

- Directory of FDA District and Regional Offices
 - http://www.fda.gov/ora/Inspect_ref/iom/OMORADIR.html
 - HHS Employee Directory
 - <http://directory.psc.gov/employee.htm>
- Your Regional Small Business Representative



FDA Ombudsman

- The FDA Ombudsman explores complaints and assist in resolving disputes between companies or individuals and agency offices
 - <http://www.fda.gov/oc/ombudsman/homepage.htm>
 - Telephone: 301-827-3390
 - Facsimile: 301-480-8039
 - E-mail: ombuds@oc.fda.gov





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Mission

To assist small businesses with unfair and excessive federal regulatory enforcement, such as repetitive audits or investigations, excessive fines, penalties, retaliation or other unfair regulatory enforcement action by a federal agency.

The National Ombudsman receives complaints and comments from small business concerns and acts as a "trouble shooter" between them and federal agencies. Small business comments are forwarded to federal agencies for a high level review and federal agencies are requested to consider the fairness of their action.

Highlights & Headlines

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My Contact Information

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