



OKLAHOMA

State Board of Pharmacy

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A letter about the **Road to Nowhere II** video from Dr. Jim Spoon,

- President of the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy

The Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy (OSBP) is proud to present **ROAD TO NOWHERE II** the follow-up to **ROAD to NOWHERE**. The original **Road to Nowhere** video was a project of the Oklahoma Pharmacy Educational Foundation, Oklahoma Pharmacists Association, and the National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators, along with OSBP. It was distributed to Pharmacists all over Oklahoma, and the nation, who presented it in schools in their communities. That project was produced in an effort to address an issue that is endangering the health and welfare of the citizens of the State of Oklahoma and the nation--prescription drug abuse by children of grade school age and teenagers. As you may remember, it was a video depicting the consequences of the misuse of prescription drugs by a young person named Tyler. Tyler made one bad decision - a decision to take drugs just for fun. This decision led to other decisions and events which eventually cost Tyler his life. We produced and distributed over 3000 DVD copies of the video, and it was watched by tens of thousands of young people.

The prevention of prescription drug abuse by our state's youth requires the united effort of all members of the community. As the gatekeepers of prescription drugs, pharmacists are a vital link in the chain and can have a dramatic impact on preventing prescription drug abuse. Pharmacists, as prescription drug experts, have a unique opportunity to provide education about the dangers of the misuse of medications by grade school students and teenagers, and provide education about the prevention of diversion to their parents. The video and educational materials are available for free to pharmacists and others to show to youth groups, and will give pharmacists the opportunity to talk with kids about the dangers of prescription drug abuse. The video is provided with a complete set of talking points for pharmacists to use to initiate the discussion portion of the presentation.

The Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy (OSBP) is committed to do everything possible to prevent drug abuse. We ask you as a pharmacist and a citizen to become involved by contacting the schools nearest you and presenting this short video to the students in these schools. The need is urgent! Please become involved.

Jim Spoon

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