Is it safe to buy your prescription drugs on-line?

Dear Attorney General Kline: Itake several prescription drugs on a regular basis. Since I don't get around as well as I once did. I've been considering buying some of them on-line and having them mailed to me at my home. Is it safe to buy prescriptions this way?

Dear Kansas Consumer:

The Internet is considered the world's largest shopping mall where you can purchase anything and everything, including prescription medications. However, many companies with web sites offering prescription medications are not properly licensed to do so in the State of Kansas.

When choosing an on-line pharmacy, there are several things to consider. Make sure that the pharmacy is registered with the Kansas Board of Pharmacy. You can verify that information by calling 785-296-4056.

The pharmacy you select should require a prescription from your doctor, who must be licensed to practice medicine in Kansas by the Kansas Board of Healing Arts. The pharmacy should also require prescriptions to be sent by your doctor or local pharmacy by mail, fax or by phone.

In addition, the pharmacy should offer a full range of prescription medications, and not just the ones that have received media attention such as Viagra, Propecia, Meridia or Phentermine.

There are several "red flags" you should watch out for:

• Web sites that offer a limited range of prescription medications,





usually the ones that have received which it dispenses pharmaceutilarge amounts of media attention.

• Web sites that ask you to agree ance with criteria established by the to a "Waiver of Liability," waiving all your legal rights. Consumers should never agree to a waiver of to privacy. liability in order to receive prescription drugs.

public notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT

In the Matter of the Estate of

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO

You are hereby notified that a

petition has been filed in this course upon the petition.

ALL PERSONS CONCERNED

Court by Robert L. Armstrong,

duly appointed, qualified and

acting Administrator of the Es-

tate of Evelyn Armstrong, de-

ceased, praying Petitioner's

acts be approved; account be

settled and allowed; the heirs be

determined; the Will and "Valid

Settlement Agreement" be con-

strued and the Estate be as-

signed to the persons entitled

thereto; the court find the allow-

ances requested for attorneys

and guardian ad litem fees and

expenses are reasonable and 13 and 20, 2006.

OF SHERMAN COUNTY

KANSAS

Evelyn Armstrong, Deceased

Case No. 05PR16

seal on the web site. To be VIPPS certified, a pharmacy must comply with the licensing and inspection requirements of its state and each state to

cals. The seal also indicates compli-National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, including patients' right

• Web sites that make ordering prescription medication as easy and • Web sites that do not have a Veri- discreet as completing an on-line

should be allowed; the costs be

determined and ordered paid;

be closed; upon the filing of re-

discharged from further liability.

Goodland, Sherman County,

the cause will be heard. Should

Robert L. Armstrong

Zuspann & Zuspann, P.A.

Phone: (785) 899-6555

Attorneys for Administrator

Star-News on Friday, January 6,

Goodland, Kansas 67735-

Administrator

1015 Center

P.O. Box 968

0968

fied Internet Phar- application and then say that a doc- these medications is dangerous and avoid becoming a victim of conmacy Practice Sites tor will review your application. Without further information, you do not know who the doctor is or where he or she is licensed to practice medicine, if at all; and no physician may ever contact you.

All prescription medications have serious and sometimes fatal side effects if taken by people with certain conditions. Not having a doctor actually give you an in-peragainst the law.

For your safety and health, all prescription medications can only be prescribed by a physician who has developed a physician/patient tions. relationship with you which includes an in-person physical examination. Any company that tries to circumvent these basic laws does not have your best interests at heart.

Attorney General Phill Kline ofson physical before prescribing *fers this public service to help you* 800-432-2310.

sumer fraud. Although some of the details have been changed, the cases appearing in this column are based on actual complaints or ques-

For information or to file a complaint, write Attorney General Phill Kline, Consumer Protection Division, 120 SW 10th Ave., Second Floor, Topeka, Kan. 66612, or call the toll-free Consumer Hotline, 1-



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