

## Compliance Today – December 2019 Former pharmacy owner sentenced for prescription medication fraud

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On September 27, 2019, the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia announced, “A former pharmacy owner was sentenced today to four years in prison for fraudulently filling and dispensing thousands of prescription medications, including opioids, outside the usual course of professional practice.

“‘Chowdhury blithely violated his position of trust,’ said G. Zachary Terwilliger, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia. ‘Chowdhury’s warped business philosophy led him to illegally distribute a significant number of prescription medications, including dangerous, addictive opioids. Moreover, his reckless actions add to the financial cost of health care as he fraudulently billed at least \$500,000 to health insurance programs for prescriptions that were never filled.’”

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