



Attorney General

Josh Stein

Robocall Hotline:(844)-8-NO-ROBO
All Other Complaints:(877)-5-NO-SCAM
Outside NC:919-716-6000

Attorney General Josh Stein Secures Up to \$40 Million from Vyera Pharmaceuticals and Seven-Year Ban for Vyera Executive

"When drug companies and executives illegally hike medical prices for their own profit, they put people's lives at risk. I'm pleased that today's agreement will help protect Americans' access to affordable, life-saving medication. I'll continue my work to hold accountable the remaining defendant who masterminded this illegal, unconscionable arrangement."



Attorney General

Josh Stein

For Immediate Release:

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Contact:

Nazneen Ahmed (919) 716-0060

(RALEIGH) Attorney General Josh Stein today announced an agreement with Vyera Pharmaceuticals (previously Turing Pharmaceuticals) and one of its former CEOs, Kevin Mulleady, that will end its illegal and monopolistic behavior. The agreement will require Vyera to pay up to \$40 million and bans Mulleady from almost any role at a pharmaceutical company for seven years. Attorney General Stein is continuing to pursue his lawsuit against "Pharma Bro" Martin Shkreli, the former Vyera CEO who was the architect of the illegal scheme.

"When drug companies and executives illegally hike medical prices for their own profit, they put people's lives at risk," said Attorney General Josh Stein. "I'm pleased that today's agreement will help protect Americans' access to affordable, life-saving medication. I'll continue my work to hold accountable the remaining defendant who masterminded this illegal, unconscionable arrangement."

In April 2020, Attorney General Stein [took legal action](#) against Vyera, Shkreli, and Mulleady for antitrust violations that stifled competition and permitted the defendants to protect and maintain their monopoly profits from their more than 4,000 percent overnight increase of the cost of the drug Daraprim (pyrimethamine) to \$750 per pill. Daraprim is used to treat the

parasitic disease toxoplasmosis, and, until relatively recently, was the only approved source of this life-saving medication by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Before Mulleady and Shkreli's involvement, Daraprim was cheap and accessible for decades. Then, in August 2015, Vyera purchased the drug, increased the price dramatically overnight, altered its distribution, and engaged in other conduct to delay and impede generic competition — all so that it could maintain the new sky-high price. The high price and distribution changes limited access to the drug, forcing many patients and physicians to make difficult and risky decisions for the treatment of a life-threatening disease. Vyera, Shkreli, and Mulleady perpetrated their illegal scheme with the intent and effect of delaying entry by lower cost generic competitors through restrictive distribution, supply agreements, and data secrecy.

The terms of today's agreement include a strict injunction against both the corporate defendant and Mulleady to avoid repetition of a similar scheme. In addition to the up to \$40 million Vyera will pay for its wrongdoing and Mulleady's seven-year ban from the pharmaceutical industry, Mulleady has also agreed to limit his shareholdings in any pharmaceutical company to nominal amounts for 10 years.

Attorney General Stein is joined in today's agreement by the Attorneys General of New York, California, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, and the Federal Trade Commission.

A copy of the agreement is available [here](#).

###

Featured, News Releases

« **Consumer Alert: Watch Out for Social Media Messages Claiming to be from the Attorney General**

Main Campus

114 West Edenton Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

p: (919) 716-6400

f: (919) 716-6750

State Crime Laboratory

121 East Tryon Road
Raleigh, NC 27603

p: (919) 582-8700

f: (919) 662-4475

Triad Regional

State Crime Laboratory

NC Justice Academy

Salemburg Campus:

PO Box 99
Salemburg, NC 28385

p: (910) 525-4151

f: (910) 525-5439

NC Justice Academy

Edneyville Campus:

PO Box 600
Edneyville, NC 28727

p: (828) 685-3600

f: (828) 685-9933

Sheriffs' Training & Standards

 English

2306 West Meadowview Road
Suite 110
Greensboro, NC 27047

p: (336) 315-4900
f: (336) 315-4956

**Western Regional
State Crime Laboratory**

300 Saint Pauls Road
Hendersonville, NC 28792

p: (828) 654-0525
f: (828) 654-9682



CONTACT NCDOJ

NCDOJ does not represent individuals in private cases. [Need an attorney?](#)

© 2020 | all rights reserved | Website by AndiSites Inc.

PO Box 629
Raleigh, NC 27602

p: (919) 779-8213
f: (919) 662-4515

**Criminal Justice
Training & Standards**

PO Drawer 149
Raleigh, NC 27602

p: (919) 661-5980
f: (919) 779-8210

