

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Spring House, Pennsylvania

Bartell Drugs Achieves 1st Community Pharmacy plus DMEPOS Exemplary Provider® Accreditation

Following recent organization-wide validation visits, The Bartell Drug Company, doing business as Bartell Drugs, whose headquarters is located at 4025 Delridge Way SW Suite 400 Seattle, WA 98106 has earned the honor of becoming the nation's first drug store chain to achieve The Compliance Team's (TCT) prestigious Community Pharmacy accreditation in combination with TCT's Medicare-approved Exemplary Provider® accreditation for DMEPOS (Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, Supplies).

In addition to all 64 Bartell Drugs' locations being accredited for Community Pharmacy and DMEPOS, the firm's Washington State locations on Hoyt Avenue in Everett and 140th Avenue SE in Renton were also awarded The Compliance Team's accreditation for their non-sterile compounding activities.

While issuing its Certificates of Accreditation, Sandra C. Canally, RN, The Compliance Team's President and CEO, proclaimed that The Bartell Drug Company is the most recent successful participant in healthcare's most comprehensive and innovative accreditation program. "Bartell Drugs throughout their organization have done a terrific job. They are tremendous examples of safe, honest and caring providers and most deserving of this recognition," Canally observed.

"We are honored to have the nation's oldest family-owned pharmacy chain become part of The Compliance Team's League of Exemplary Providers", Billy Chow, Bartell Drugs' Vice President of Pharmacy Operations and Clinical Services, exclaimed upon learning of their Exemplary Provider® accredited status. "We commend all of our staff for their dedication and daily efforts to provide quality patient care", Chow concluded.

Known as "Washington's neighborhood drugstore", Bartell Drugs was established in 1890 when George Bartell, Senior opened his first drugstore in Seattle. For the past 125 years, the firm has offered a full range of pharmacy services starting with George Bartell Senior's homemade elixirs to today's ever expanding array of ethical pharmaceuticals and OTC products.

To earn Exemplary Provider® status and its Community Pharmacy, DMEPOS and Non-sterile Compounding accreditations, Bartell Drugs completed The Compliance Team's series of expert-led implementation webinars. Afterwards, they had to achieve scores of 90% or better during unannounced company-wide validation visits. In addition, Bartell's set in place fraud and abuse awareness safeguards as well as a corporate quality improvement program.

Also, as part of TCT's rigorous accreditation process, Bartell's is required to upload satisfaction reports to TCT's Patient Quality Measurement database, the industry's oldest and largest database of its kind. The results are then automatically benchmarked against the results of thousands of peer organizations from around the country; a value-added feature that helps providers prove their quality claims to patients, referral sources and third-party payers.

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Sandra C. Canally, RN, formed the Compliance Team, Inc. (TCT) in 1994. The firm's first Exemplary Provider® accreditation programs were launched in 1998. TCT is the first and remains the only certified woman-owned, forprofit, accreditation organization to be granted CMS deeming authority (Part A—Rural Health Clinic & Part B—DMEPOS. Presently, the firm accredits providers in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. All told, The Compliance Team offers its Exemplary Provider® accreditation in 11 different healthcare sectors including: Critical Access Hospital, Rural Health Clinic, Physician Practice, Immediate Care Clinic, Pharmacy Services (Community/Specialty Drugs/ Long Term Care/ Sterile & Non-sterile Compounding, Travel Clinic/ Retail), DMEPOS, Sleep Care Management, Home Health (non-Medicare), Private Duty, Hospice (non-Medicare) and Ocularist/ Anaplastologist.

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