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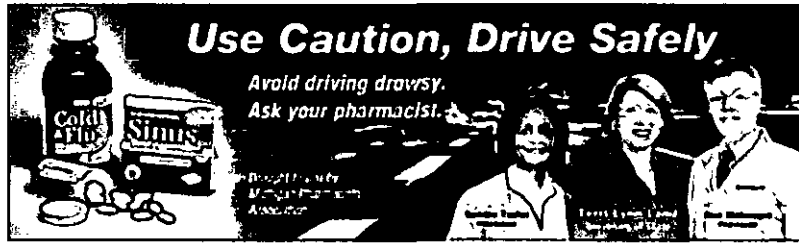
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**Secretary of State and Michigan Pharmacists Association Launch Public Awareness Campaign**



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**FEBRUARY 9, 2006**

**"Use Caution, Drive Safely" Campaign Focuses On Dangers Of Driving While Using Over-The-Counter Medications**

A public awareness campaign designed to focus attention on the dangers of driving while using certain over-the-counter and prescription medications was unveiled today.

"We want Michigan's citizens to be safe behind the wheel and on our roads," said Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land, who is serving as campaign spokesperson along with members of the Michigan Pharmacists Association. "We hope that by raising awareness of this problem, drivers will avoid driving drowsy and ask their pharmacist about the potential side effects of any medications they are taking."

According to the Journal of the American Medical Association, 16,000 accidents in the United States each year can be attributed to impairment from over-the-counter and prescription drugs.

The "Use Caution, Drive Safely" campaign is a statewide effort that utilizes public service announcements, billboards, posters and printed materials to draw attention to the dangerous side effects of driving after taking certain medications and the resources that are available to help patients and customers understand their medications' side effects.

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"Pharmacists are there to do more than fill prescriptions. They are great resources and can provide the information citizens need to stay safe while using over-the-counter and prescription medications," said Larry Wagenknecht, CEO, Michigan Pharmacists Association. "Your local pharmacist is always there to answer questions and help individuals understand the medications they take. Through this campaign, we are hoping to inform Michigan consumers about the possible dangers of driving after taking common over-the-counter and prescription medications and encourage them to talk to their pharmacist, be informed, and drive safely.

For more information on the "Use Caution, Drive Safely" awareness campaign please visit, [www.michiganpharmacists.org/drivesafely.htm](http://www.michiganpharmacists.org/drivesafely.htm).

- Branch Office
- Board of State  
Canvassers meeting  
Monday, June 5, 2006
- 'Be Safe, Be Seen'
- 'Old Blue' fading to black
- Richard H. Austin St  
Office Building  
Dedication Thursday
- Austin Building  
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honors life of  
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