



Dear Alliance Member:

What a difference just a few years make.

Almost five years ago, the stakeholders who depend on the FDA to oversee the Nation's foods, drugs, medical devices and cosmetics recognized that an underfunded FDA ill-served all interests. Unlike other health agencies such as NIH, the FDA had no advocates, no organized support, no one to stand up and say, "We all benefit from a strong and well-funded FDA."

And so, two organizations were formed to advocate for more FDA appropriations. Three years ago, we brought the two organizations together into one, the Alliance for a Stronger FDA.

I think it's fair to say we have had a remarkable impact. Members of Congress and their staffs now understand that FDA plays a central role in assuring the health of our Nation and of us as individuals, and that FDA needs adequate funding to fulfill its public health and consumer protection mandate.

The FDA has received substantial funding increases in the years since the Alliance and its predecessor organizations started their (our) advocacy. The numbers speak for themselves.

But we now face a tougher appropriations environment. The Nation faces financial challenges and they will impact FDA appropriations.

The Alliance will retain its commitment and enthusiasm to its continued messages, as we also invoke new messages tied to the larger budget environment. In the new year, we will educate the Congress and the public about the role that FDA plays in the American economy and in homeland security.

A few principles underlie the work of the Alliance. We are totally non-partisan. We advocate positions that represent our members' views on the need to grow FDA's appropriation. We do not seek to tell FDA leaders how to spend whatever increased funding it receives. We are not distracted by side issues, always focusing on our single issue, to increase FDA's appropriated funding.

It has been my great honor to serve as President of the Alliance for a Stronger FDA since its creation three years ago, and as President of the FDA Alliance for the previous two years. I now

turn the leadership over to Nancy Bradish Myers, who has provided leadership to the Alliance as a co-founder, board member, as Treasurer and then our 2010 Vice President.

I want to thank the Alliance staff for doing a fantastic job – Ladd Wiley, Steven Grossman, Tony Curry, and the lawyers at Akin Gump. Bill Hubbard has been a valued advisor. They have worked together seamlessly to create an effective organization.

Nancy needs the support of all Alliance members if we are to sustain our strong advocacy for FDA in the years ahead. I know she can count on you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne L. Pines". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Wayne L. Pines