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Former FDA Dietary Supplement Division Chief Dan Fabricant, Ph.D., Available for Response to PBS Segment On Dietary Supplements

“The U.S. has the safest dietary supplement and natural product supply in the world, but there are still those who unfortunately want to break the rules. We look forward to seeing this segment and continuing to explain the strong rules and requirements that legitimate manufacturers, suppliers, and retailers take to meet the growing demand for high quality natural products.”

WASHINGTON, D.C. – A report by PBS that is scheduled to air in the next 24 hours is expected to explore the U.S. federal government’s regulatory approach to the dietary supplement industry. The Natural Products Association and Dan Fabricant, Ph.D., Executive Director and CEO of the Natural Products Association (NPA) conducted interviews for the story and is available for response once the program airs. The report, “Supplements and Safety” will air at 10:00 PM EST on PBS *Frontline*.

Dan Fabricant, Ph.D., Executive Director and CEO of the Natural Products Association released the following statement:

“Thanks to the regulatory regime that is in place, the U.S. has the safest dietary supplement and natural product supply in the world. There are strong regulations in place to protect consumers and punish criminals. During my tenure as the head of the Dietary Supplement Division at the FDA, my team took on more cases, did more inspections, levied more fines and put more people in jail than in the years before I arrived.

While there are some bad actors in the industry, this does not change the fact that the vast majority of products used by Americans each and every day, often at the advice of their doctor or medical professional, are safe and part of a balanced healthy lifestyle.

Additionally, NPA and the industry are developing a number of initiatives to elevate quality standards. One of our goals is to define and establish "minimum certification standards" for facilities that manufacture dietary supplement ingredients. Establishing 'minimum standards' will allow many more manufacturers to consistently produce safe and reliable products.

Currently, a wide variety of quality methods and many different levels of implementation are used across the industry, including companies and certifiers that still rely on older final-inspection techniques. NPA wants to improve these standards by ensuring the baseline is consistent, so that a rising tide can truly raise all ships. These initiatives are being developed by industry leaders working with the trade associations



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and independent certifying bodies which means that they will ultimately become the standard that is used for ingredients.”

Schedule an Interview

To schedule an interview with Dr. Fabricant immediately, please contact Justin Bartolomeo at 202-789-4365 or jbartolomeo@hdmk.org

Dan Fabricant is a Leading Expert in the Field of Dietary Supplement Use and Regulation

Dr. Fabricant has more than a decade of regulatory, legislative and scientific experience in the natural products industry. Prior to being named CEO of NPA, the nation’s largest and oldest trade organization representing the natural products industry, Dr. Fabricant directed agency policy, public affairs and regulatory action regarding regulation of the dietary supplement industry for more than three years at the FDA. While with the agency, he successfully navigated the large, heavily-matrixed governmental organizational structure to bring life to a regulatory function that was non-existent for almost 20 years. Before his time at the FDA, Dr. Fabricant was vice president, global government and scientific affairs, for NPA, responsible for establishing and leading industry coalitions dealing with a range of issues. Dr. Fabricant is internationally recognized for his regulatory and governmental public health expertise and natural products research.

Natural Products Association

The **Natural Products Association (NPA)** is *the* trade association representing the entire natural products industry. We advocate for our members who supply, manufacture and sell natural ingredients or products for consumers. The Natural Products Association promotes good manufacturing practices as part of the growth and success of the industry. Founded in 1936, NPA represents over 2,000 members accounting for more than 10,000 locations of retailers, manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors of natural products, including foods, dietary supplements, and health/beauty aids. Visit www.NPAinfo.org. Follow NPA on social media:

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