



## **NEW PRESCRIBING AND REPORTING RULES FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021**

Starting January 1, 2021, new laws will impact licensees who prescribe and/or dispense controlled substances.

**1. Updated Prescription Pad Security Requirements** - starting January 1, 2021, California state law requires 15 security elements, including a 12-character serial number and corresponding barcode, to appear on California Security Prescription Forms. State law also requires California Security Prescription Forms to be produced by printers approved by the California Department of Justice's [California Security Prescription Printers Program](#). For more information, please refer to the [AB 149 Joint Statement](#).

**2. Revised Reporting Requirements for Controlled Substances** – starting January 1, 2021, the dispensing of a controlled substance must be reported to the Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) within one working day after the medication is released to the patient or the patient's representative. Previously, the deadline to report was seven days after dispensing. Further, this law requires reporting of Schedule V drugs, in addition to Schedules II, III, and IV. This requirement applies to pharmacists and prescribers who dispense controlled substances.