

Prosecutor Michael Loucks remembers clearly when lawyers for Pfizer Inc., the world's largest drug company, looked across the table and promised it wouldn't break the law again.

What Loucks, who's now acting U.S. attorney in Boston, didn't know until years later was that Pfizer managers were breaking that pledge not to practice so-called off-label marketing even before the ink was dry on their plea. On the morning of Sept. 2, 2009, another Pfizer unit, Pharmacia & Upjohn, agreed to plead guilty to the same crime.

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