

# Diet clinic denies link to troubled firm

By NANCY AUSTIN

A company operating in Livonia, Birmingham, Southfield and four other suburbs shares some corporate officers with an Ohio firm facing consumer fraud charges.

Some officers of Quick Weight Loss Clinics in Michigan are listed as officers of Quick Weight Loss Clinics named in Ohio action.

Barbara Roman, Ohio Assistant Attorney General, said Quick Weight Loss Clinics was charged with failure to disclose side effects of Human Chorionic Gonadotropin (HCG), a hormone used for weight loss.

The Ohio firm also was cited for false advertising, excessive financial charges and inadequate medical supervision in its operations in Ohio in 1978 and 1979. Those cases are pending in Common Pleas court in Ohio.

DONALD GEARHART, listed as vice president of Quick Weight Loss Clinics incorporated in Michigan, denied use of the drug in the Ohio clinics. The drug has never been used in Michigan Quick Weight Loss Clinics, he said.

Gearhart told this newspaper the Ohio legal action was "a blanket charge against five separate companies" enjoining them not to use the drug HCG.

"They (the Ohio firm) have not used HCG," he stated.

Quick Weight Loss Clinics in Ohio was restricted from using HCG in January 1979, following court action.

Gearhart also disputes connection between the operations in Michigan and Ohio.

"The Michigan corporation is a separate corporation from the company in Ohio. There is no connection."

Asked about Philip Schuman's connection with the Michigan company, Gearhart stated that Schuman is an adviser and a consultant in Michigan, but is not a stockholder.

INCORPORATION papers in Michigan list Schuman as secretary and treasurer of the Michigan firm. The principals of Quick Weight Loss Clinics in Michigan, in addition to Gearhart and Schuman, are listed as Connie L. Gearhart, treasurer; and Joyce Schuman, president.

On Ohio state tax records, Joyce Schuman is listed as president and Philip R. Schuman as owner, secretary and treasurer of the Quick Weight Loss Clinics there.

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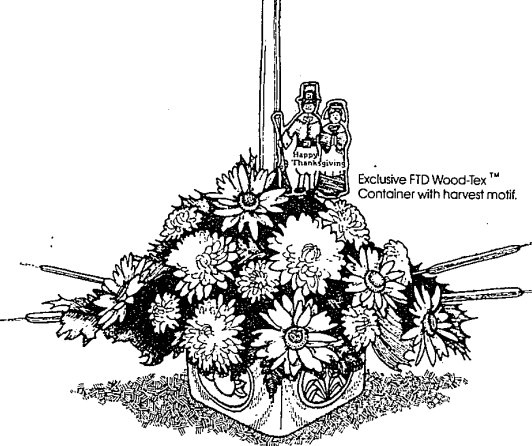
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