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**(Neb.) - Nebraska will not immediately turn over execution drug**

By: John Thayer Posted at: 04/20/2012 10:44 AM

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) - Nebraska will not immediately turn over to federal authorities its supply of a drug used during lethal injections.

Instead, the Nebraska Attorney General's office is calling on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to appeal a federal judge's recent ruling that the drug, sodium thiopental, was wrongly allowed into the U.S. That judge also ordered the FDA to notify any state with foreign-manufactured thiopental that its use is prohibited and that it must be turned over to the FDA.

Earlier this month, the FDA sent a letter to Nebraska authorities requesting the state's supply of sodium thiopental.

The Nebraska Attorney General's office sent a response Friday to the FDA saying "we are unaware of any evidence or reasons why" the state should turn over its supply of the drug.

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