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James Kirkpatrick Davis is an independent scholar and author of *Kelley: The Story of an FBI Director*: Kansas City: Andrews McMeel & Parker 1987. *Spying on American. The FBI Domestic Counterintelligence Program*: Westport CT.: Praeger Publishers 1992. *Assault on the Left: The FBI and the Sixties Antiwar Movement*: Westport CT.: Praeger Publishers 1997. *Ali Was Here; A Promising Life. A Brutal Murder. Justice and a Legacy of Hope*: Kansas City: Kansas City Star Books, 2009. *The Saturday Night Massacre. What Really Happened on October 20, 1973*: Columbus, Ohio: The Educational Publisher 2015. He and his wife Neva live in Lee's Summit, Missouri

OPERATION: DILUTED TRUST

James Kirkpatrick Davis

On May 27, 2001, a nurse in Kansas City oncologist Dr. Hunter-Hicks' office placed a five c.c. vial of Taxol chemotherapy medicine in a package and sent it to the National Medical Services laboratory. On June 12, 2001, the lab results arrived back. The Taxol sample from the lab was a bombshell. It had approximately one-third of the amount of Taxol the doctor had ordered. Diluted medication could result in serious, possibly fatal results.

In September 2001, the FBI opened a new case file: Operation Diluted Trust. Overseen by FBI Director Robert S. Muller III, Diluted Trust was the FBI's highest priority case in the nation until the terrorist attacks on 9/11.

The FBI discovered that pharmacist responsible for the scam, Robert Ray Courtney, had been diluting chemotherapy drugs for years and had brought in hundreds of thousands of dollars. But beyond the crime of overcharging for diluted medication was the human toll it took. At least 4,200 patients were affected with at least 40 known deaths. This was the first case of its kind in American medical history.

Operation: Diluted Trust is the story of Robert Ray Courtney, the FBI case against him, and the devastation he wrought among thousands of patients and their families.

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