

March 2012



If you suspect that Medicaid fraud or abuse, neglect or exploitation has occurred in a Medicaid facility or has been committed by someone working for a Medicaid provider, immediately report the incident to the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) of the Office of the Virginia Attorney General at 1-800-371-0824 or 804-371-0779.

# Virginia Attorney General's Office Medicaid Fraud Control Unit

## MEDICAID FRAUD INVESTIGATION

This case was opened as a result of a complaint by the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) against the owner and the manager/office administrator of First Call Home Health Care located in Woodbridge, Virginia. The complaint included allegations of billing an additional ten hours of service for each recipient, which was not provided. The re-

sults of the investigation determined that the targets were falsifying the hours and the services billed were never provided. Beginning in 2008, the office manager began submitting false claims to a DMAS intermediary for home health services to Medicaid recipients when she knew the services had not been

provided. The manager enlisted the help of other employees and family members of Medicaid recipients to provide fraudulent billing timesheets for nearly \$1 million from August 2008 to May 2010.



## THE OUTCOME

On September 8, 2011, the Office Manager appeared in Federal Court in the Eastern District of Virginia and was convicted by a jury on 13 counts of health care fraud. On December 2, 2011, a judge sentenced this defendant to 51 months of incarceration, followed by a three-year term of supervised release and to make restitution in the amount

of \$698,000.00 to Medicaid. The owner of First Call Home Health Care fled the country and is currently in Ghana. He has been entered into NCIC as wanted on federal charges of health care fraud. This case was investigated by the Virginia Medicaid Fraud Unit and the FBI's Washington Field Office. The case

was prosecuted by Assistant Attorney General/Special Assistant United States Attorney Steve Grist and Assistant United States Attorney Timothy D. Belevetz. For more information see <http://www.justice.gov/uao/vae> or <https://pcl.uscourts.gov>

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## VIRGINIA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE MEDICAID FRAUD CONTROL UNIT

### Out and About in the Community



**Virginia Beach.** Wendell Parker (left), Chairman of the Virginia Beach Triad Executive Committee, and Virginia Beach Master Police Officer Dolly Deans (right) pose with Community Outreach Coordinator Randy Davis following his presentation on MFCU and the Elder Abuse & Neglect Squad to their monthly Triad meeting at the Marian Manor Retirement Community on January 21st.



**Suffolk.** Members of Virginia's law enforcement community benefit from hearing the latest techniques to investigate and arrest healthcare providers who cheat Medicaid. Paul Anderson, Deputy Director of Investigations and Audit, and Community Outreach Coordinator Randy Davis brought the MFCU success story to members of the Suffolk Police Department on February 8th. In addition to specifics on how to identify Medicaid fraud in their community, police officers learned how the MFCU nurse investigators employed by the Elder Abuse & Neglect Squad can be of tremendous help interpreting medical records necessary to bring arrests and successful prosecutions.

The Virginia MFCU's Community Outreach Coordinators will soon be coming to a church, club or civic group near you! Here's a partial schedule of the upcoming presentations about our Elder Abuse & Neglect Squad:

**February 25 Tough Choices Seminar & Expo**, 11:00 a.m., Manassas Assembly of God, 11500 New LifeWay, Bristow.

**February 28 Richmond County Triad meeting**, 9:30 a.m., Warsaw Baptist Church, 226 Main Street, Warsaw.

**March 6 The "Ageless Wonders" Seniors' Group** at Winfree Memorial Baptist Church, 12:00 noon, 13617 Midlothian Turnpike, Richmond.

**March 26 Prince George County Triad Meeting** 1:00 p.m., Prince George Library, 6402 Courthouse Rd. Prince George.

**May 23 Older Americans Month event**, 1:00 p.m., Bon Air Baptist Church, 2531 Buford Road, Richmond



Virginia Attorney General  
Kenneth T. Cuccinelli, II

### Community Appreciation

Following his second annual presentation on MFCU and the Elder Abuse & Neglect Squad, a Certificate of Appreciation was given to our Community Outreach Coordinator Randy Davis on January 19, "in recognition of (his) valuable contribution" to the 200-member Petersburg TRIAD & S.A.L.T. (Seniors And Law enforcement Together) Council and support of the Petersburg Sheriff's Office. The certificate was signed by incoming TRIAD President Matthew Turner and Petersburg Sheriff Vanessa Crawford.

**Request a presentation on Medicaid Fraud for your church, club or civic group. Contact Randy Davis (Eastern Virginia) at 804-786-7750 or Mickey Mixon (Western Virginia) at 540-562-3571 today.**

## *What if you suspect fraud by a Medicaid Recipient?*

### What can you do if you suspect fraud by a Medicaid recipient?

#### Please contact the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS).

Recipient fraud can include:

- \*the deliberate failure to report income or to disclose resources
- \*unreported change in household member composition
- \*uncompensated asset transfer
- \*Medicaid card sharing, prescription fraud and drug diversion

Non-fraud examples are:

- \*eligibility errors due to recipient misunderstanding
- \*agency errors
- \*when Medicaid-covered services continue during the appeal process and the agency's cancellation action is upheld
- \*When the investigation confirms that an individual received Medicaid services fraudulently, the claims paid on the recipient's behalf are determined and the overpayment amount is identified. Recipient fraud cases can be prosecuted by the local Commonwealth's Attorney's Office or in Federal court when joint investigations are involved.

*\*The MFCU is statutorily prohibited from investigating Medicaid recipient fraud.*

To Report Recipient Fraud,  
Contact DMAS:

**By telephone:**

1-866-486-1971 or  
(804) 786-1066

**By mail:**

Department of Medical Assistance  
Services  
Recipient Audit Unit  
600 East Broad Street  
Suite 1300  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

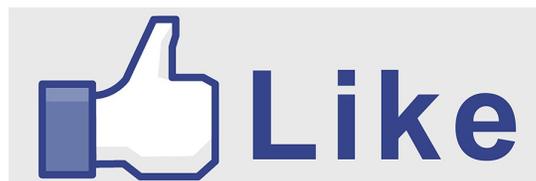
**By e-mail:**

[RecipientFraud@DMAS.virginia.gov](mailto:RecipientFraud@DMAS.virginia.gov)



### *“Like” Our Facebook Page?!*

*Check out the new Virginia Medicaid Fraud Control Unit's Facebook page today at [www.facebook.com/VAMFCU](http://www.facebook.com/VAMFCU) to keep up with the latest news on Medicaid Fraud from across the Commonwealth and the nation. While there, you can also access detailed information about MFCU, including our mission, awards, and contact information. View and download photos of our recent visits to community organizations. Watch videos and check our calendar of events for upcoming presentations in your area. And, don't forget to click the “like” button if you want to join our list of friends.*



*VIRINIA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE*

*Medicaid Fraud Control Unit*

*Elder Abuse and Neglect Squad*

We are on the web:  
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For more information, additional copies, or to receive quarterly copies of this newsletter, please contact:

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