



RICK SCOTT  
GOVERNOR

ELIZABETH DUDEK  
SECRETARY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:** AHCA Communications Office

[AHCACommunications@ahca.myflorida.com](mailto:AHCACommunications@ahca.myflorida.com), 850-412-3623

**Agency Calls for Nominations for Fraud Fighter Achievement Award**

*~Forms available via Agency website; due November 10, 2014~*

**Tallahassee, Fla.** – The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) has opened the call for nominations for the 2014 Fraud Fighter Achievement Award. This award recognizes an individual, team or entity whose efforts to reduce or deter fraud represent an act of extraordinary dedication and outstanding accomplishment, and support the Agency’s mission of providing *Better Health Care for all Floridians*.

A nominee of this award may be a Medicaid recipient or provider, government official or entity, or private citizen who demonstrates the AHCA values – Accountability, Fairness, Responsiveness, Teamwork – in their efforts that helped to detect or prosecute fraud, or prevent fraudulent activity in the health care arena.

Nominations will be accepted through November 10, 2014 and award winners will be recognized during Fraud and Abuse Awareness Week, November 17, 2014. Nomination forms are available [here](#).

The Agency has many efforts to deter fraud or abuse in the Medicaid program including, but not limited to:

- field initiatives that incorporate teams of investigators focusing on a single provider type making unannounced visits and specific checks regarding Medicaid billing, necessary medical services rendered, proper licenses and certifications;
- third party billing verification to ensure that Medicaid is the payor of last resort;
- random audits of providers billing activities as well as targeted audits of providers that bill “outside the average” for the provider types, resulting from our many “in-house” data-mining efforts and analytical reports run on the claims data;
- educational programs for providers to help them understand the Medicaid billing process, the laws, rules and regulations that apply to them as providers.

In addition, the Agency, in collaboration with Office of the Attorney General, annually releases a comprehensive report highlighting efforts to reduce and deter fraud and abuse. Click [here](#) to view the 2012-13 Florida Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Annual Report.

*The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida’s Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 45,000 health care facilities and 34 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at [www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov](http://www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov). Additional information about Agency initiatives is available via [Facebook \(AHCAFlorida\)](#), [Twitter \(@AHCA\\_FL\)](#) and [YouTube \(/AHCAFlorida\)](#).*

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2727 Mahan Drive • Mail Stop #2  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
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