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Better Health Care for all Floridians

ELIZABETH DUDEK
SECRETARY

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Secretary Dudek, Attorney General Bondi Release Annual Medicaid Fraud Report
*~Annual report reveals Florida's inter-agency efforts to prevent fraud and abuse,
recommendations for future enhancements~*

TALLAHASSEE – Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) Secretary Liz Dudek and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi announce the release of Florida's annual Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Report, which highlights the activities related to fighting fraud and abuse in the Medicaid program and details cases investigated by both agencies. The agencies continue to work together to improve and safeguard Florida's Medicaid program, the fourth largest in the nation, which serves approximately 3.1 million Floridians.

In the 2010-11 fiscal year, the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) and the Agency's Medicaid Program Integrity (MPI) staff worked jointly to recover more than \$142.3 million in erroneous and fraudulent claims, fines and sanctions, investigation costs and interest related to fraudulent and abusive behavior by Medicaid providers. The Agency's MPI Unit also prevented \$22.1 million in unnecessary expenditures through their diligence in pre-payment review of claims, termination of specific providers, focused projects, site visits and denial of reimbursement for ineligible claims. The Agency's Third Party Liability Unit collected \$135.7 million in claims paid by Medicaid for which a third party was liable, thereby ensuring Medicaid is the payor of last resort.

"It is imperative the finite resources of Florida's Medicaid program only be expended for legitimate, authorized services. We will not allow individuals and businesses to essentially steal from taxpayers by defrauding Medicaid," Attorney General Pam Bondi said.

"As the Medicaid delivery model shifts, the Agency will continue to repurpose our staff and resources to ensure that the savings realized from the transition to managed care are not reduced by fraud and abuse," Secretary Liz Dudek said. "The Agency is proud of the way the new efforts to fight fraud and abuse have been achieved through intra-agency connectivity."

The Agency continues to work on electronic connectivity of databases in order to be more efficient and effective in dealing with Medicaid providers and recipients. The Agency has connected the Medicaid claims processing system to the Department of Health's licensing database and set up processes to link the Agency's Division of Health Quality Assurance licensing database to the Medicaid accounts receivable database. With the support of the Medicaid and Public Assistance Fraud Strike Force, the Agency will continue to work toward state and federal data integration and utility to combat fraud and abuse.

Tips about suspected fraud can be reported by calling the Attorney General's Fraud Hotline at 1-866-966-7226 or the Agency's Consumer Call Center at 1-888-419-3456. Anyone can report



fraud online by visiting the Agency's Web site at www.ahca.myflorida.com and clicking the "Report Fraud" button.

Click [here](#) to view the 2010-11 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 40,000 health care facilities and 37 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at FloridaHealthFinder.gov. For more information, visit AHCA.MyFlorida.com.

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