



Fraud Alert!

\$2.4 Billion Recovered

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Department of Justice

Justice News

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This article takes experts from the following publication:

Affordable Care Act Helps Government Fight Fraud, Strengthen Health Insurance Programs, Protect Consumers, and Save Taxpayer Dollars

The Obama Administration is committed to reducing fraud, waste, and abuse across the government. Since 2010, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Inspector General (HHS OIG), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) have been using powerful, new anti-fraud tools to protect Medicare and Medicaid by shifting from a “pay and chase” approach toward fraud prevention. Through the groundbreaking Healthcare Fraud Prevention Partnership, stronger relationships have been built between the government and the private sector to help protect all consumers.

These focused efforts are successful. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, the government recovered \$2.4 billion as a result of health care fraud judgements, settlements and additional administrative impositions in health care fraud cases and proceedings. Since its inception in 1997, the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control (HCFAC) Program has returned more than \$29.4 billion to the Medicare Trust Funds. *In this past fiscal year, the HCFAC program has returned \$6.10 for each dollar invested.*

Since 2007, the Medicare Fraud Strike Force has charged more than 2,536 individuals involved in more than \$8 billion in fraud. Many of these charges have resulted from coordinated, multi-district national takedowns. In June 2015, the Medicare Fraud Strike Force conducted its largest ever nationwide fraud takedown, which for the first time, involved non-Strike Force participants and resulted in charges against a record 243 individuals for approximately \$712 million in false Medicare and Medicaid billing. Since its inception, the Medicare Fraud Strike Force has maintained a conviction rate of approximately 95 percent and an average term of incarceration of more than four years.

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