



## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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### **TWO LAS VEGAS HOME CARE PROVIDERS SETTLE FOR \$700,000.00**

Las Vegas, NV – Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto announced today that two home health care companies, Greater Vegas Personal Care, LLC and Vegas Valley Personal Care, LLC each paid the State \$350,000.00. Earlier, on November 7, 2007, each company entered a guilty plea to one felony count of Medicaid Fraud, Submission of False Claims. District Court Judge Elizabeth Gonzalez rendered the companies guilty and ordered them to make the \$700,000.00 payment as restitution to Nevada Medicaid, costs of the investigation and penalties.

The case against both companies was investigated and prosecuted by the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. The investigation centered on allegations that from June 2005 through March 2007 some of the companies' employees were not properly qualified to provide services to Medicaid recipients. Subsequently the companies were sold and new oversight controls were enacted.

"This case exemplifies the determination of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit", said the Attorney General. "The investigation lasted over a year, encompassing multiple search warrants, the review of thousands of documents and the interviews of numerous witnesses. Even though the companies effectively relinquished their wrongful actions by selling their ownership interests, they could not escape their culpability or liability to the State."

The Nevada Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit investigates and prosecutes instances of financial fraud by those providing healthcare services and goods to Medicaid patients. The unit also investigates and prosecutes elder abuse or neglect. Anyone wishing to report suspicions regarding any of these concerns may contact the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit in Carson City (775) 684-1191 or in Las Vegas (702) 486-3187. Medicaid fraud information can also be found on the Attorney General's web site: <http://ag.state.nv.us>.

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