



## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **FORMER HOME HEALTH CARE OWNER AND WORKER SENTENCED FOR MEDICAID FRAUD**

**Las Vegas, NV** – Nelida Calina, age 55, was sentenced today for Medicaid Fraud. Ms. Calina pled guilty to a felony offense of Submitting False Claims: Medicaid Fraud. District Court Judge Valerie Adair sentenced her to 12 to 30 months in jail, suspended, 16 hours of community service each month if Ms. Calina is unemployed, payment of \$44,000.00 in restitution, penalties, and costs. Ms. Calina will serve five (5) years probation. The case was investigated and prosecuted by the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU).

"This prosecution is important and ensures the contracted Medicaid providers are held accountable for claims being submitted to Nevada Medicaid," said Attorney General Masto. "It is also important that money received in fraudulent schemes is returned to Nevada Medicaid. That money can be used for Medicaid recipients services."

The investigation began in 2007 after information was obtained that personal care aid services were not being provided to Medicaid recipients. Medicaid has a personal care aid program to keep people living independently in their own homes by providing basic services, including bathing, dressing, house cleaning and meal preparation. Medicaid contracts with home care companies that in turn employ individuals to provide the actual day-to-day care. The investigation developed information that Ms. Calina, as the owner of ABC Home Care Services, was submitting false claims to Medicaid for services not provided to Medicaid recipients. It was also determined that Ms. Calina herself claimed to have provided home health services to Medicaid recipients. The investigation determined that Ms. Calina was not at patients' homes for the time periods she claimed to be providing services.

The Nevada Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit investigates and prosecutes instances of elder abuse or neglect. The unit also investigates and prosecutes financial fraud by those providing healthcare services or goods to Medicaid patients. 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>