



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Catherine Cortez Masto, *Attorney General*

100 N. Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4717
Telephone - (775) 684-1100
Fax - (775) 684-1108
Web - <http://ag.state.nv.us>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: April 12, 2011

Contact: Edie Cartwright
775.684.1189

HEALTHCARE WORKER YOUNGSOOK KWON SENTENCED FOR MEDICAID FRAUD

Reno, NV: –Youngsook Kwon, age 57, was sentenced for a misdemeanor offense of Submission of False Medicaid Claims. Justice of the Peace Pro Tem Jenny Hubach found Ms. Kwon guilty and sentenced her to payment of \$750.00 in restitution, penalties, and costs in this Medicaid fraud case. The case was investigated and prosecuted by the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit.

“No instance of Medicaid fraud can be tolerated, no matter how seemingly small,” said Attorney General Masto. “Prosecution of these crimes ensures the integrity of Medicaid and returns money for use by those in need of services.”

The investigation began in 2010 after information was obtained that Kwon was not providing personal care assistant services to a Medicaid recipient and was receiving payment for those purported services. Medicaid has a personal care assistant program to keep people living independently in their own homes by providing basic services, including bathing, dressing, 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 Kwon indeed failed to provide care services for the patient for whom she was employed, yet claimed that she performed the services and received payment as if she had actually performed the services.

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