



# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **HEALTHCARE WORKER TAMMY MURPHY SENTENCED FOR MEDICAID FRAUD**

**Las Vegas** – The Office of the Nevada Attorney General reports today that Las Vegas Tammy Murphy was sentenced for Medicaid Fraud. Murphy pled guilty to a gross misdemeanor offense: Intentional Failure to Maintain Adequate Records. Murphy was sentenced to 30 days in jail, suspended, 3 years of probation, performance of 40 hours of community service and payment of \$1,279.00 in restitution, penalties and costs. The case was investigated and prosecuted by the Attorney General’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU).

In 2009, the MFCU received information from a citizen who claimed that Murphy was not providing personal care services to a Medicaid recipient for which she was nonetheless still receiving payment from Medicaid. 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. Murphy was self-employed as a live-in care provider to provide the actual day-to-day care for the recipient. It was discovered that Murphy 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.

“In order to protect the Medicaid system, the public funds that support it and the health and well being of Medicaid recipients, every instance of Medicaid fraud must be investigated and prosecuted where fraud is proved,” said Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto.

Persons convicted of Medicaid fraud may also be subject to exclusion from future Medicaid participation.

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>