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FORMER LONG TERM CARE OWNER SENTENCED

Las Vegas, NV – The Office of the Attorney General announced today that Nellie Magtaas was sentenced for Neglect of Duty in Willful or Wanton Disregard of Safety of Person or Property, a gross misdemeanor offense. Ms. Magtaas was formerly the owner of Garden of Eden Home Care, a residential facility for elderly people. Judge Melisa De La Garza sentenced Ms. Magtaas' to 30 days in jail, suspended, one year probation and payment of a \$250.00 fine.

“We have an obligation to assist our elderly citizens and to ensure they are receiving proper care and attention,” said Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto.

“Prosecuting these cases promotes safe living environments for our elderly.”

Ms. Magtaas was formerly the owner of Garden of Eden Home Care. The Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance (BHCQC) responded to a complaint concerning a resident who fell at the facility. Upon arriving at the facility and surveying the situation, the BHCQC surveyor contacted the Aging and Disabilities Service Division (ADSD). A referral was then made to the Attorney General's Office, Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU). The Attorney General's office worked in conjunction with ADSD and BHCQC to ensure that Ms. Magtaas was held accountable for the actions that occurred at the facility following the resident's fall.

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 who has information regarding this case or 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>