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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 1, 2016

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Attorney General Laxalt Announces Sentencing of Behavioral Health Provider for Medicaid Fraud

Las Vegas, NV – Nevada Attorney General Adam Paul Laxalt announced that Jahquel Coleman, 36, of Las Vegas was sentenced for a records offense associated with Medicaid claims for behavioral health services. Coleman pleaded guilty to one count of intentional failure to maintain adequate records, a gross misdemeanor.

Eighth Judicial District Court Judge Jennifer Togliatti sentenced Coleman to 364 days, suspended, and placed him on probation for three years. As part of the sentence, Coleman was also ordered to pay than \$1,600 in restitution and perform 100 hours of community service.

“Medicaid is one of the most important services this state offers to those in need,” said Laxalt. “In an effort to protect these services, my Office will remain aggressive in combating Medicaid fraud to safeguard taxpayer resources and ensure the wellbeing of its recipients.”

Coleman provided behavioral health services through Serenity Mental Health, a company that provides services such as substance abuse and rehabilitative mental health services. An investigation by the Attorney General’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) revealed that from April through December of 2014, Coleman created and submitted fraudulent service documentation to Serenity for services that he failed to provide to a Medicaid recipient. The documentation was then relied on and used by Serenity to submit claims to Nevada Medicaid.

The MFCU investigates and prosecutes financial fraud of those providing healthcare services or goods to Medicaid patients. The MFCU also investigates and prosecutes instances of elder abuse or neglect. Persons convicted of Medicaid fraud may be administratively excluded from future Medicaid and Medicare participation. Anyone



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wishing to report suspicions regarding any of these concerns may contact the MFCU at 702-486-3420 or 775-684-1100.

To file a complaint of someone suspected of Medicaid fraud, click [here](#). To view the Criminal Information, click [here](#).

This case was prosecuted by Andrew Schulke, Senior Deputy Attorney General.

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