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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Attorney General Ford Announces Sentencing of Behavioral Health Provider and its Owner for Medicaid Fraud

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Provider ordered to pay more than \$350,000 in restitution, costs, and penalties

Las Vegas, NV – Today, Nevada Attorney General Aaron D. Ford announced that Forevermore Behavioral Health L.L.C. and its owner, Shanna Marie Mayer, 44, of Reno, were sentenced for Medicaid fraud committed between April 2018 and August 2019.

Judge Derek Dreiling adjudicated Forevermore Behavioral Health L.L.C. guilty of two counts of Submitting False Claims: Medicaid Fraud, a misdemeanor, and ordered the company to pay \$300,000 in restitution. Mayer was found guilty of Submitting False Claims: Medicaid Fraud, a misdemeanor and was ordered to pay \$50,000 in costs and penalties.

The investigation of this case began after the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) received information from Nevada Medicaid's Surveillance and Utilization Review Unit regarding Forevermore Behavioral Health L.L.C. and its owner, Mayer. The complaint indicated that Mayer and her company were submitting claims to Medicaid alleging that service providers were rendering more than 24 hours of service to Medicaid recipients in a single day. The investigation ultimately revealed that Mayer and her company were billing excessively for services that were never provided to Medicaid recipients, and Mayer failed to maintain requisite records to support the services that may have been provided. Additionally, the investigation found that Mayer used falsified degrees that she purchased online in order to qualify as a Medicaid servicing provider.

The MFCU investigates and prosecutes financial fraud by those providing healthcare services or goods to Medicaid patients. The MFCU also investigates and prosecutes instances of elder abuse or neglect. The Nevada MFCU receives 75% of its funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under a grant award. The remaining 25% is funded by the State of Nevada, MFCU. Anyone wishing to report suspicions regarding any of these concerns may contact the MFCU at 702-486-3420 or 775-684-1100.

This case was investigated by the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit and is being prosecuted by Senior Deputy Attorney General Behnaz Salimian Molina.

To file a complaint with the Office of the Nevada Attorney General, click here.