



# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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## **ATTORNEY GENERAL FORD ANNOUNCES SENTENCING OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMPANY EMPLOYEE**

**Las Vegas, NV** – Today, Nevada Attorney General Aaron D. Ford announced that Maurice Andrews, 38, of Las Vegas, was sentenced in a Medicaid fraud case involving fraudulently billing for healthcare services to Medicaid recipients. The fraud occurred between March 2018 and April 2019.

District Court Judge Mary Kay Holthius sentenced Andrews for Submitting False Claims, a category “D” felony. Andrews was sentenced to 19 to 48 months in prison, suspended, and placed on probation for two years. As part of the sentence, Andrews was ordered to pay \$346,059 for restitution. Individuals or businesses convicted of Medicaid fraud may also be administratively excluded from future Medicaid and Medicare participation.

“Healthcare billers must act honestly in submitting claims to Nevada Medicaid only for services that have actually been provided to Nevadans in need,” said AG Ford. “My office will continue to pursue such fraudulent billing practices to protect taxpayer funds.”

The investigation began after the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) received a referral from Silver Summit Healthplan (Silver Summit), a Managed Care Entity contracted with Medicaid, that a behavioral health company had billed excessively high levels of care for various patients and done so without prior authorizations. The investigation revealed that Andrews was the biller for the healthcare company and fraudulently billed services that were not provided. The providers at the healthcare company denied providing the services that Andrews claimed in the billings to Medicaid. Andrews caused the payments from Medicaid for these fraudulent billings to be paid into his personal bank account thereby further hiding his fraudulent conduct from the company.

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 percent of its funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under a grant award. The remaining 25 percent is funded by the State of Nevada, MFCU. Persons convicted of Medicaid fraud may also be administratively excluded from future Medicaid and Medicare participation. 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 was prosecuted by Senior Deputy Attorney General Steve Sidhu.

View the [criminal information](#). [File a complaint](#) with the Office of the Nevada Attorney General.

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