

Department of Law, Criminal Division 310 K Street Suite 601, Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: (907) 269-6250 Fax: (907) 269-7939 Email: LawOSP@alaska.gov **Department of Law, Criminal Division** 310 K Street Suite 601, Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: (907) 269-6250 Fax: (907) 269-7939 Email: LawOSP@alaska.gov 1

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assistance agency for property, services, or a benefit with reckless disregard that the claimant is not entitled to the property, services, or benefit.

All of which is a Felony class C offense being contrary to and in violation of 47.05.210(a)(1) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

COUNT II:

That in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or about November 10, 2015 through December 4, 2015, at or near Anchorage, ROSALIA FAGALIMA LOLESIO knowingly made a false entry or falsely altered a medical assistance record.

9 All of which is a Misdemeanor class A offense being contrary to and in violation
10 of 47.05.210(a)(5) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

The undersigned swears under oath this Information is based upon a review of MFCU Investigative report 0643465 submitted to date.

On January 27, 2016, the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) received a fax from Caring Companions reporting that one of their employees, Rosalia Lolesio, was terminated for submitting false timesheets. Caring Companions is a company that bills Medicaid for providing personal care attendant (PCA) services to Medicaid recipients.

PCAs are enrolled in Medicaid as home-based healthcare providers. The Alaska 18 Medicaid Program pays PCAs to provide services of daily living to Medicaid recipients, 19 which will allow Medicaid recipients to stay in their home rather than be placed in an 20 assisted living home type setting. Medicaid recipients are evaluated for medical needs by 21 an employee of the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) and the recipient is 22 then authorized to hire a PCA to provide home based healthcare services. The PCA fills 23 out a timesheet for the work done and submits it to a PCA agency that in turn bills 24 Medicaid. Medicaid pays approximately \$24 an hour to the agency and the agency must 25 pay the PCA at least half of that amount.

Prior to December 23, 2011, Alaska Medicaid would authorize payment for PCA services while travelling internationally if the travel was pre-approved. On December 23,

2011, the DHSS sent out a notice to all Medicaid providers that federal law prohibits Medicaid expenditures for services outside of the United States, but allows travel within the United States with prior approval from DHSS.

One type of Medicaid fraud investigated by MFCU is known as "travel billing." An offender commits travel billing fraud by submitting timesheets claiming to have provided PCA services that cannot possibly have been provided because the provider, or the recipient, or both, are traveling outside the United States at the time of the purported service.

8 Care coordinator Herietta Emokidi visited Medicaid recipient T.L.'s residence on January 7, 2016. During the visit, she learned that T.L. traveled to Hawaii from 10 November 10, 2015 through December 4, 2015. Emokidi contacted Caring Companions to report the travel. Caring Companions reviewed the timesheets submitted by PCA Rosalia Lolesio and discovered that Lolesio submitted timesheets claiming to have provided T.L. PCA services during T.L.'s vacation in Hawaii. Lolesio did not travel with T.L. to Hawaii. 14

The timesheets submitted by Lolesio indicate she was claiming to be providing PCA services of transfer, locomotion, dressing, bathing and toileting for approximately one hour a day. Lolesio also submitted timesheets to Caring Companions claiming to be providing ten hours of weekly respite and chore services including transportation, medical reminders, housekeeping and errands.

19 MFCU investigators contacted Lolesio on February 25, 2016. Lolesio admitted 20 to the investigators to filling out the timesheets for the period of time T.L. was in Hawaii. Lolesio said she thought it was ok to bill Medicaid since T.L. was accompanied by her 22 father in Hawaii. Lolesio then acknowledged that her father was not a PCA and thus not 23 eligible to bill Medicaid. In total, Medicaid paid \$890.24 to Lolesio for services that 24 were not provided. Caring Companions withheld this money from Lolesio's final paycheck.

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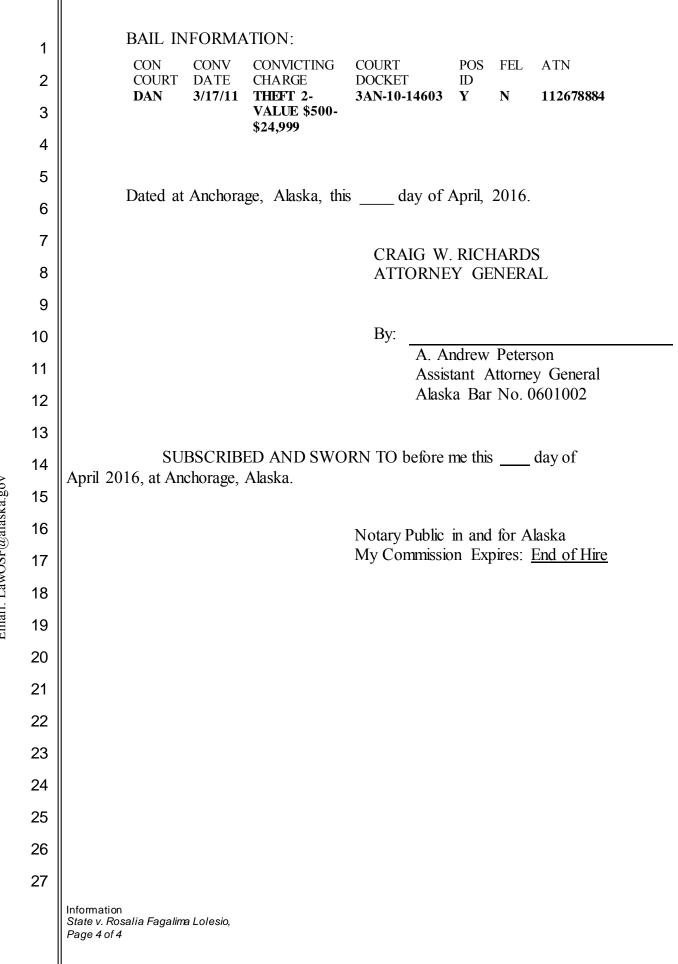
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