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IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT ANCHORAGE

STATE OF ALASKA, Plaintiff, VS. BRODY WILLIAM MCPHETERS DOB: 06/23/1995 **APSIN ID: 7578371** DMV NO.: 7373771 AK ATN: 115745796 Defendant.

CR (Brody William McPheters) No. 3AN-18-

INFORMATION

I certify this document and its attachments do not contain the (1) name of a victim of a sexual offense listed in AS 12.61.140 or (2) residence or business address or telephone number of a victim of or witness to any offense unless it is an address identifying the place of a crime or an address or telephone number in a transcript of a court proceeding and disclosure of the information was ordered by the court. The following counts charge a crime involving DOMESTIC VIOLENCE as defined in AS 18.66.990:

> Count I - AS 47.05.210(a)(1) Medical Assistance Fraud Brody William McPheters - 001

Count II - AS 11.71.040(a)(9) Fourth Degree Misconduct Involving A Controlled Substance Brody William McPheters - 002

> Count III - AS 11.46.630(a)(1) Falsifying Business Records Brody William McPheters - 003

THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROSECUTIONS CHARGES:

COUNT I

That in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or about June 7th to July 5th, 2015, at or near Anchorage, BRODY WILLIAM MCPHETERS knowingly submitted or authorized the submission of a claim to a medical assistance agency for property, services, or a

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

All of which is a Misdemeanor class A 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 February 7th to March 10th, 2015, at or near Anchorage, BRODY WILLIAM MCPHETERS obtained possession of a controlled substance, Oxycodone, Roxycodone, and/or Alprazolam, by misrepresentation, fraud, forgery, deception, or subterfuge, to wit: Prescriptions 0080172, 0077636, and 2270781.

All of which is a Felony class C offense being contrary to and in violation of 2015 version of 11.71.040(a)(9) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

COUNT III

That in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or about February 7th to March 10th, 2015, at or near, BRODY WILLIAM MCPHETERS, with intent to defraud, made or caused to make a false entry in the business records of an enterprise, to wit: Prescriptions 0080172, 0077636, and 2270781.

All of which is Felony Class C offense being contrary to and in violation of 11.46.630(a)(1) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

The undersigned swears under oath this Information is based upon a review of police report 0657524 submitted to date:

This case arose from a PCA fraud tip given to the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU). PCAs, or Personal Care Assistants, are enrolled in Medicaid as home- or communitybased healthcare providers. The Alaska Medicaid Program pays PCA agencies to provide services of daily living to senior or disabled Medicaid recipients, which will allow Medicaid recipients to stay in their home rather than be placed in an assisted living home type setting or other long-term care facility. Medicaid recipients are evaluated for medical needs by an

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employee of the Department of Health and Social Services. The DHSS evaluator decides on an appropriate number of hours and the types of services for the recipient to receive home healthcare based on the recipient's individualized needs. The Medicaid recipient is then authorized to hire a PCA provider through a PCA agency to provide those home- or communitybased based healthcare services. The PCA provider, as an employee of the PCA agency, fills out a timesheet for the work done over the course of specific day or week and both the PCA provider and the recipient (or guardian/power of attorney) signs the timesheet. The PCA provider then submits the timesheet to the PCA agency. The PCA agency in turn bills Medicaid for the work reflected on the PCA provider's timesheet under a particular code – typically code T1019. Medicaid pays approximately \$24 an hour to the PCA agency and the agency must pay the PCA provider at least half of that amount.

On July 19th, 2016 the Alaska MFCU received a complaint from Hearts and Hands of Care, Inc. (HHCI) a PCA agency. A Medicaid recipient's father had complained to HHCI that PCA Brody McPheters was filing fraudulent timesheets with HHCI and getting paid for work he had not done on behalf of the Medicaid recipient. MFCU Investigator Brian Williams was assigned the case in September 2017. Inv. Williams interviewed the original complainant, who stated that while McPheters was working with his (the complainant's) son, McPheters fraudulently filled out timesheets stating that he worked more hours than he actually did. The complainant knew this because McPheters did not work with the complainant's son during the weekend, yet McPheters had filled out four timesheets showing that he worked a total of 21 hours on the weekends from June 7th to July 5th, 2015. Medicaid was billed, and paid, just over \$500 for the 21 hours written on the fraudulent timesheets.

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Pursuant to standard procedure for PCA fraud cases, the MFCU requested and obtained McPheters' personnel file from HHCI. The personnel file indicated that McPheters had been fired on July 24th, 2015. The personnel file also included a second complaint, this one from Dr. Tara Lathrop, a relative of one of McPheters' clients. Dr. Lathrop had accused McPheters of stealing her prescription pad from her residence and using it to fill controlled substance prescriptions in his name. At the time the pad went missing, McPheters had been hired to provide respite care for Dr. Lathrop's relative through HHCI, and had been providing those services at Dr. Lathrop's house. Dr. Lathrop discovered that several prescriptions had been written out to McPheters using her prescription pad and her business partner's, Dr. Kristen lagulli (a/k/a Dr. Kristen Lee), prescription pad despite neither of them seeing McPheters as a patient and neither of them writing prescriptions to him, and also neither of them writing prescriptions for the types or quantities of drugs listed on the pads.

Inv. Williams obtained several business records from Anchorage area pharmacies. The following three prescriptions were filled by the pharmacies and the controlled substances were possessed by McPheters:

Inv. Williams obtained prescription records showing prescription number 0077636 for Alprazolam 2MG and 120 count which was filled on Feb. 17th, 2015 at Walgreens. Dr. Lathrop was listed as the prescriber and McPheters was listed as the recipient. Dr. Lathrop told Inv. Williams that she did not write that prescription, nor was it in her handwriting, and there were several aberrancies that were inconsistent with her normal method of writing prescriptions. Dr. Lathrop also relayed to Inv. Williams that at least twice McPheters had tried to pick up prescriptions written to other people under suspicious circumstances.

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Inv. Williams also found prescription number 2270781 for Oxycodone 30MG and 120 count which was filled on Feb. 18th, 2017 at Carrs. Dr. Iagulli was listed as the prescriber for that prescription and McPheters was listed as the recipient. Dr. Iagulli stated that she had never seen McPheters as a patient nor had prescribed him medication. Dr. Lathrop described that dose of Oxycodone as more consistent with the dose for a dying cancer patient.

Inv. Williams spoke with Dr. Robinson regarding prescription number 0080172 for Roxycodone 30MG and 30 count which was filled on March 10th, 2015 filled at Walgreens. Dr. Robinson was listed as the prescriber and McPheters was listed as the recipient. Dr. Robinson stated that he had never seen McPheters nor prescribed him Roxycodone, nor had he ever prescribed that high a dose of Roxycodone. Dr. Robinson did state that McPheters had seen another doctor at his practice in that timeframe and that his prescription pad had possibly been stolen.

Inv. Williams obtained photocopies of the prescriptions from Carrs and Walgreens. On the two Walgreens prescriptions, a Walgreens pharmacy tech had written McPheters' Alaska Driver's License or Identification number in the margin of the prescription. According to the Walgreens pharmacy manager, a pharmacy tech would routinely check the identification of the person dropping off a hand written prescription and write the identification number on the actual prescription. Attendant to the Carrs prescription was the hand-written signature that a customer would sign on the electronic signature machine commonly seen at Carrs checkout areas. That hand-written signature is consistent with McPheters' signature on his driver's license. Inv. Williams also compared the handwriting of the three prescriptions to the handwriting on McPheters' HHCI application, and observed that the handwriting was consistent. Inv. Williams

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obtained handwriting exemplars from Dr. Lathrop, Dr. Iagulli and Dr. Robinson, and observed that the three prescriptions were wholly inconsistent with each doctor's handwriting.

Inv. Williams interviewed McPheters. With respect to the timesheets, McPheters stated he does not remember working weekends, but that he may have just been signing timesheets his girlfriend filled out for him. McPheters stated that the signatures on the timesheets were his, and could remember other general details of that time period, such as where the recipient went to school. McPheters stated that he did not remember specifics on the pieces of paper, such as the exact hours he worked on a particular day two years ago.

With respect to the prescriptions, McPheters stated that he had never been a patient of Dr. Lathrop, Dr. Iagulli or Dr. Robinson. When asked about the prescriptions, McPheters stated "I have no idea, I wish I could remember," "I don't have all the facts," and otherwise generally denied knowledge of the prescriptions. When pressed about MCFU's concerns regarding the "very, very strong" Oxycodone prescriptions, McPheters stated it's actually not that strong if you have a tolerance to it. When asked how much Oxycodone he had been using, McPheters stated "as much as we could get." McPheters stated that he did not "sell anything, I don't need to."

BAIL INFORMATION

McPheters was convicted of a DUI / LSOA in 2017 and a shoplifting in 2016.

Dated at Anchorage, Alaska, this day of February, 2018. JAHNA LINDEMUTH ATTORNEY GENERAL

> By: Eric Senta **Assistant Attorney General** Alaska Bar No. 1011091

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