

January 15, 2016

The Honorable Beth McCann, Chair Health, Insurance, and Environment Committee 200 E. Colfax Avenue Denver, CO 80203

Dear Representative McCann:

Enclosed please find the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's legislative report on improving Medicaid fraud prosecution to the House Health, Insurance, and Environment Committee.

Section 25.5-1-115.5, C.R.S., requires the Department to submit a written report by January 15 of each year regarding Medicaid fraud prosecution that includes:

- a) Investigations of client fraud during the year;
- b) Termination of client benefits due to fraud;
- c) Recoveries, including fines and penalties, restitution ordered and collected; and
- d) Trends in methods used to commit client fraud, excluding law-enforcement sensitive information.

If you require further information or have additional questions, please contact the Department's Legislative Liaison, Zach Lynkiewicz, at <a href="mailto:Zach.Lynkiewicz@state.co.us">Zach.Lynkiewicz@state.co.us</a> or 720-854-9882.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Birch, MBA, BSN, RN

**Executive Director** 

SEB/pep



Cc: Representative Joann Ginal, Vice Chair, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Representative J. Paul Brown, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Representative Janet Buckner, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Representative Daneya Esgar, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Representative Steve Humphrey, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Representative Janak Joshi, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Representative Gordon Klingenschmitt, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Representative Lois Landgraf, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Representative Susan Lontine, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Representative Dianne Primavera, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Representative Kim Ransom, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Representative Su Ryden, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee Legislative Council Library State Library John Bartholomew, Finance Office Director, HCPF Gretchen Hammer, Health Programs Office Director, HCPF Dr. Judy Zerzan, Client and Clinical Care Office Director, HCPF Chris Underwood, Health Information Office Director, HCPF Jed Ziegenhagen, Community Living Office Director, HCPF Tom Massey, Policy, Communications, and Administration Office Director, HCPF Rachel Reiter, External Relations Division Director, HCPF

Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF



January 15, 2016

The Honorable Daniel Kagan, Chair House Judiciary Committee 200 E. Colfax Avenue Denver, CO 80203

Dear Representative Kagan:

Enclosed please find the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's legislative report on improving Medicaid fraud prosecution to the House Judiciary Committee.

Section 25.5-1-115.5, C.R.S., requires the Department to submit a written report by January 15 of each year regarding Medicaid fraud prosecution that includes:

- a) Investigations of client fraud during the year;
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Susan E. Birch, MBA, BSN, RN

**Executive Director** 

SEB/pep



Cc: Representative Pete Lee, Vice-Chair, Judiciary Committee

Representative Terri Carver, Judiciary Committee

Representative Lois Court, Judiciary Committee

Representative Tim Dore, Judiciary Committee

Representative Mike Foote, Judiciary Committee

Representative Polly Lawrence, Judiciary Committee

Representative Paul Lundeen, Judiciary Committee

Representative Jovan Melton, Judiciary Committee

Representative Joe Salazar, Judiciary Committee

Representative Yeulin Willett, Judiciary Committee

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Gretchen Hammer, Health Programs Office Director, HCPF

Tom Massey, Policy, Communications, and Administration Office Director, HCPF

Chris Underwood, Health Information Office Director, HCPF

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Jed Ziegenhagen, Community Living Office Director, HCPF

Rachel Reiter, External Relations Division Director, HCPF

Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF



January 15, 2016

The Honorable Dianne Primavera, Chair Public Health Care and Human Services Committee 200 E. Colfax Avenue Denver, CO 80203

Dear Representative Primavera:

Enclosed please find the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's legislative report on improving Medicaid fraud prosecution to the House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee.

Section 25.5-1-115.5, C.R.S., requires the Department to submit a written report by January 15 of each year regarding Medicaid fraud prosecution that includes:

- a) Investigations of client fraud during the year;
- b) Termination of client benefits due to fraud;
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Sincerely,

Susan E. Birch, MBA, BSN, RN

**Executive Director** 

SEB/pep



Cc: Representative Jonathan Singer, Vice-Chair, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee

Representative Joann Ginal, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Representative Dominick Moreno, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Representative Brittany Pettersen, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Representative Max Tyler, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Representative Lois Landgraf, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Representative Kathleen Conti, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Representative Justin Everett, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Representative Janak Joshi, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Representative JoAnn Windholz, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Representative JoAnn Windholz, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Legislative Council Library

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Tom Massey, Policy, Communications, and Administration Office Director, HCPF
Rachel Reiter, External Relations Division Director, HCPF
Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF





January 15, 2016

The Honorable Kevin Lundberg, Chair Health and Human Services Committee 200 E. Colfax Avenue Denver, CO 80203

Dear Senator Lundberg:

Enclosed please find the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's legislative report on improving Medicaid fraud prosecution to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

Section 25.5-1-115.5, C.R.S., requires the Department to submit a written report by January 15 of each year regarding Medicaid fraud prosecution that includes:

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Susan E. Birch, MBA, BSN, RN

**Executive Director** 

SEB/pep



Cc: Senator Larry Crowder, Vice-Chair, Health and Human Services Committee Senator Beth Martinez Humenik, Health and Human Services Committee Senator Irene Aguilar, Health and Human Services Committee Senator Linda Newell, Health and Human Services Committee Legislative Council Library State Library John Bartholomew, Finance Office Director, HCPF Gretchen Hammer, Health Programs Office Director, HCPF Dr. Judy Zerzan, Client and Clinical Care Office Director, HCPF Chris Underwood, Health Information Office Director, HCPF Jed Ziegenhagen, Community Living Office Director, HCPF Tom Massey, Policy, Communications, and Administration Office Director, HCPF Rachel Reiter, External Relations Division Director, HCPF Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF





January 15, 2016

The Honorable Ellen Roberts, Chair Senate Judiciary Committee 200 E. Colfax Avenue Denver, CO 80203

**Dear Senator Roberts:** 

Enclosed please find the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's legislative report on improving Medicaid fraud prosecution to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Section 25.5-1-115.5, C.R.S., requires the Department to submit a written report by January 15 of each year regarding Medicaid fraud prosecution that includes:

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Senator Kevin Lundberg, Vice-Chair, Judiciary Committee
Senator Irene Aguilar, Judiciary Committee
Senator John Cooke, Judiciary Committee
Senator Michael Merrifield, Judiciary Committee
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Jed Ziegenhagen, Community Living Office Director, HCPF
Rachel Reiter, External Relations Division Director, HCPF
Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, HCPF

Cc:



# Improving Medicaid Fraud Prosecution

As required by Section 25.5-1-115.5, C.R.S.

January 15, 2016

Submitted to:

House Health, Insurance, and Environment Committee House Judiciary Committee House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Senate Health and Human Services Committee Senate Judiciary Committee



# Summary

Section 25.5-1-115.5, C.R.S., requires the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to submit a written report by January 15 of each year regarding Medicaid fraud prosecution that includes:

- Investigations of client fraud during the year;
- Termination of client benefits due to fraud;
- Recoveries, including fines and penalties, restitution ordered and collected; and
- Trends in methods used to commit client fraud, excluding lawenforcement sensitive information.

This report is based on information requested in the statute and was compiled by the Department from the 64 counties. Each county's self-reported information is in Appendix A. Overall totals include:

- 2,468 investigations of client fraud during the fiscal year
- 192 termination of services of client Medicaid benefits due to fraud
- Number of District Attorney actions:
  - √ 60 criminal complaints requested
  - ✓ No cases dismissed
  - ✓ No cases acquitted
  - ✓ 27 convictions
  - ✓ 20 confessions of judgment
- \$1,025,657.29 of fraud identified as reported by the counties
- \$28,980.25 fines and penalties recovered and retained by counties
- Amount of Restitution:
  - √ \$278,467.20 ordered



#### ✓ \$154,577.87 collected

Trends observed during fraud investigations as reported by the counties are noted below:

- Most cases are due to unreported income or resources and household members; some involve clients leaving the state without reporting the move. Other cases involve residency and forged documents.
- Counties express concern about the high number of new clients applying through the online PEAK website due to the Affordable Care Act. This potentially leads to higher numbers of client fraud due to self-reported information not being verified at the online real time eligibility determination.
- In order to address these concerns voiced by the counties as listed above, the Department has been utilizing the Public Assistance Reporting Information System to determine if clients are receiving benefits in other states. To verify income of applicants, the Department has been utilizing the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment interface as its Income Eligibility Verification System to verify earned income and unemployment. The Beneficiary & Earnings Data Exchange System (BENDEX) is used to verify social security income.

#### Appendix A

The information presented below regarding medical assistance client fraud is presented in compliance with the requirement stipulated in Section 25.5-1-115.5, C.R.S. This information is self-reported by each county.

Country	*Total client case count	Case Investigated	Criminal Complaints	Dismissed	Acquitted	Convictions	Confession of	D.	coveries	Fines and		Res	titution		stitution lected	Terminations
County		by County	Requested		•		Judgements			•			ereu	COI	iecteu	
Adams	140,390	2	2	0	0	2	0	\$	9,540.61	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Alamosa	7,130	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Arapahoe	135,455	51	2	0	0	1	0	\$	68,262.48	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Archuleta	3,230	1	1	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	1
Baca	1,210	6	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Bent	1,859	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Boulder	49,336	239	1	0	0	0	0	\$	34,740.18	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	2
Broomfield	7,070	2	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Chaffee	3,859	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Cheyenne	448	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Clear Creek	1,657	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Conejos	3,474	4	2	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	4
Costilla	1,905	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Crowley	1,422	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Custer	882	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Delta	9,252	10	1	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Denver	200,049	651	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Dolores	546	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	_	\$	-	\$	_	0
Douglas	24,276	104	1	0	0	2	0	\$	-	\$	_	\$	26,929.31	\$	-	0
Eagle	7,354	42	3	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	_	\$	-	\$	-	0
Elbert	2,925	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	0
El Paso	163,220	6	2	0	0	1	1	\$	14,587.00	\$	_	\$	_	\$	77,747.00	2

The above totals for Medicaid caseloads are self-reported by the counties. Some counties state they do not have resources to pursue suspected fraud cases and others state they have difficulty bringing cases to prosecution.

<sup>\*</sup>Source of all caseload data provided is the MMIS data warehouse table Client Monthly Reports Data. Provided by Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Finance Data Analysis Section

## Appendix A

The information presented below regarding medical assistance client fraud is presented in compliance with the requirement stipulated in Section 25.5-1-115.5, C.R.S. This information is self-reported by each county.

Fremont	12,694	1	0	0	0	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0
Garfield	13,744	49	0	0	0	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0
Gilpin	1,044	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0
Grand	2,255	1	0	0	0	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0

County	Total client case count	Case Investigated by County	Criminal Complaints Requested	Dismissed	Acquitted	Convictions	Confession of Judgements	Re			Fines and penalties		Restitution ordered		stitution lected	Terminations
Gunnison	3,148	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Hinsdale	159	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Huerfano	2,672	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Jackson	314	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Jefferson	95,044	252	18	0	0	6	6	\$	198,038.57	\$	5,973.50	\$	49,614.21	\$	3,141.18	27
Kiowa	393	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Kit Carson	1,931	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
La Plata	10,638	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	884.34	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Lake	1,990	3	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	3
Larimer	61,668	502	5	0	0	2	0	\$	1,315.34	\$	-	\$	2,070.49	\$	1,033.29	7
Las Animas	5,196	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Lincoln	1,286	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Logan	4,868	59	1	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	6
Mesa	42,442	7	7	0	0	2	2	\$	38,010.85	\$	-	\$	5,355.15	\$	87.86	2
Mineral	149	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Moffat	3,681	4	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Montezuma	8,786	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Montrose	12,438	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0
Morgan	8.308	12	0	0	0	0	0	Ś	44.125.13	Ś	_	Ś	_	Ś	_	8

The above totals for Medicaid caseloads are self-reported by the counties. Some counties state they do not have resources to pursue suspected fraud cases and others state they have difficulty bringing cases to prosecution.

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Totals	1,241,056	2468	60	0	0	27	20	\$ 1,025	,657.29	\$	28,980.25	\$ 2	278,467.20	\$ 154,577.87	192
Yuma	2,552	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
Weld	68,274	397	13	0	0	10	10	\$ 615	5,001.76	\$	9,396.00	\$ 3	191,514.01	\$ 72,568.54	118
Washington	1,072	6	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
Teller	5,051	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
Summit	4,108	3	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	3
Sedgwick	731	6	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
San Miguel	1,317	1	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
San Juan	183	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
Saguache	2,752	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
Routt	3,830	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
Rio Grande	4,841	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
Rio Blanco	1,222	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
County	Total client case count	Case Investigated by County	Criminal Complaints Requested	Dismissed	Acquitted	Convictions	Confession of Judgements	Recove	Recoveries		Fines and penalties		stitution ered	stitution lected	Terminations
Pueblo	64,427	46	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	11,962.25	\$	-	\$ -	9
Prowers	5,055	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
Pitkin	1,513	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
Phillips	1,083	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
Park	2,972	1	1	0	0	1	1	\$ 1	,151.03	\$	1,648.50	\$	2,984.03	\$ -	0
Ouray	819	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0
Otero	7,727	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	0

The above totals for Medicaid caseloads are self-reported by the counties. Some counties state they do not have resources to pursue suspected fraud cases and others state they have difficulty bringing cases to prosecution.

<sup>\*</sup>Source of all caseload data provided is the MMIS data warehouse table Client Monthly Reports Data. Provided by Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Finance Data Analysis Section