



## National Health Care Fraud Takedown Results in 455 Defendants Charged in Connection with Over \$6.5 Billion in Alleged Fraud

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

### Record Medicaid Fraud Charges Largest Number of States Participating in Health Care Fraud Takedown History

The Justice Department today announced the 2026 National Health Care Fraud Takedown, which resulted in charges against 455 defendants, including 90 doctors and other licensed medical professionals, for their alleged participation in health care fraud and opioid abuse schemes involving over \$6.5 billion in false claims and significant patient harm, including death. Today's Takedown represents a new era in federal, state, and international cooperation to combat health care fraud: cases in 56 federal districts and 45 U.S. states and territories, with 50 state Medicaid Fraud Control Units participating, the most in Department history. In addition, unprecedented international cooperation over the two-week Takedown resulted in the apprehension and return to the United States of the following health care fraudsters: one defendant in Kyrenia in connection with an over \$3.7 billion scheme; two defendants in Estonia in connection with a previously charged \$10.6 billion scheme; and, in the Philippines, one of FBI's Most Wanted Fraudsters in connection with a previously-charged \$1.2 billion telemedicine fraud scheme. The Takedown involves the cutting-edge use of data analytics to target the worst actors; the seizure of over \$182 million in cash, luxury vehicles, jewelry, and other assets; and full-spectrum accountability for all criminal actors from doctor's offices to corporate boardrooms. Today's coordinated enforcement action involves a whole-of-government approach, including:

*While today's announcement is one of the largest on record—every arrest is a continued message to criminal actors who rob American taxpayers that you will not get away with your crimes.*  
— FBI Director Kash Patel.

- Actions by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to suspend 1,079 providers and revoke billing privileges for 1,403 providers.
- 48 Civil Monetary Payment settlements amounting to over \$73 million, over 1,400 provider exclusions, and 25 actions by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General ("HHS-OIG") under the Civil Monetary Penalties Law seeking more than \$10 billion in payments to the Medicare Trust Fund from payments that CMS caught and suspended before the funds were paid to the fraudulent providers.
- Civil charges against 13 defendants for \$14.8 million in health care fraud schemes, as well as civil settlements with 31 defendants totaling \$23 million.
- 928 administrative cases by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) seeking the revocation of authority to handle and/or prescribe controlled substances since October 1, 2025.

"The results of this nationwide healthcare takedown are historic," said FBI Director Kash Patel. "Under the leadership of President Trump, Vice President Vance, and the White House Task Force to Eliminate

Fraud, this FBI worked alongside our DOJ partners to arrest and charge over 450 people, including almost 100 medical professionals, for over \$6 billion in alleged healthcare fraud schemes - showing the enormous amount of work done by our interagency law enforcement team over the last month and beyond. While today's announcement is one of the largest on record—every arrest is a continued message to criminal actors who rob American taxpayers that you will not get away with your crimes."

SOURCE: [Office of Public Affairs | National Health Care Fraud Takedown Results in 455 Defendants Charged in Connection with Over \\$6.5 Billion in Alleged Fraud | United States Department of Justice](#)

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On June 4, 2026 the FBI announced the creation of the  
[Most Wanted Fraudsters List](#)

## June 1-5 is Medicare Fraud Prevention Week. Here's How Americans Can Help Protect Themselves and Medicare.

### CMS Newsroom Blog

Jun 02, 2026

By Dr. Mehmet Oz, CMS Administrator, and Mary Lazare, ACL Principal Deputy Administrator, serving as the senior official performing the duties of the ACL Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging

June 1 marked the start of Medicare Fraud Prevention Week. While this week shines a spotlight on fraud prevention, protecting Medicare is a year-round mission.

As the leaders of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Administration for Community Living (ACL), we know protecting taxpayer dollars and safeguarding beneficiaries requires constant vigilance across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) every day of the year.

In 2025 alone, CMS suspended more than \$5.7 billion in suspicious payments and launched investigations into thousands of potentially fraudulent Medicare providers and suppliers. This year, CMS has suspended Medicare payments to hundreds of potentially phony hospices, many of which didn't even bother calling to dispute our decision. CMS also just recently issued nationwide moratoria on new Medicare enrollments for hospices, home health agencies, and durable medical equipment suppliers until we can develop the safeguards necessary to stop bad actors from exploiting the system. Existing providers will continue delivering these vital services to beneficiaries while CMS closes off pathways for new fraudsters to enter the program.

As a partner in the Medicare fraud fight, ACL supports a national network of grantees and team members, many of them volunteers, known as the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP). The SMPs provide free, unbiased one-on-one assistance to Medicare enrollees, their families, and caregivers to help people identify potential fraud, review billing concerns, and report suspected scams. They are the local connection between Medicare and the older adults and people with disabilities who rely on it for their healthcare benefits and services.

Annually, the SMPs reach almost 2.5 million people through community outreach and education, and help more than 300,000 people, one-on-one, navigate their Medicare questions and concerns. SMP team members provide more than 550,000 hours to the program each year, most of which is spent helping individuals identify and report suspected cases of fraud. To give just one example of this program's positive work, an SMP in 2024 helped identify a doctor who was signing orders for genetic testing and durable medical equipment without seeing, speaking to, or otherwise treating patients. That case resulted in the arrest and conviction of the doctor involved, including a judgment of more than \$35 million to be paid back to Medicare.

Although HHS is fighting fraud 365 days a year, it's still worth taking the time this week to remind ourselves, the people who depend on our programs, and the taxpayers who fund them, why stopping health care scams is a top priority for this administration and how we can work together to pursue that goal.

The answer is simple: protecting Medicare means protecting access to care for today's beneficiaries and preserving the program for future

generations. Fraud destroys the public trust that sustains these programs. It increases the burden on taxpayers. And it harms the most vulnerable Americans by siphoning off scarce resources.

The audacity of these scams can be shocking. One provider billed Medicare over \$9 million for 7,200 skin substitute bandages over a three-month period—for a single patient! This patient supposedly had a wound the size of a sheet of printer paper, but the paperwork showed no doctor visits, no record of a wound, and no prescriptions for pain medication or antibiotics. Another provider claimed that a patient went through 20 catheters a day for three months and billed Medicare \$19,000 for them. When we reached out to the patient, he told us he didn't use catheters at all.

The cost of fraud isn't just financial either. Criminals who are willing to steal money from beneficiaries are often willing to steal their health and even their life. Medicare beneficiaries who are signed up for hospice care without their consent lose access to their regular benefits and must go through several laborious steps to get them restored. In a case identified by the California SMP, a beneficiary's lifesaving surgery was canceled due to a fraudulent hospice enrollment, putting her life in jeopardy. In another example, an elderly hospice patient in the Los Angeles suburb of Carson died after being neglected and malnourished by scammers out to make a quick buck. Fraud has devastating, real-life consequences for Medicare beneficiaries and their families.

**CONTINUED ON Pg 4**

## MEDICARE FRAUD PREVENTION WEEK — **MEDIA EVENTS:**

SMP made three TV appearances during Medicare Fraud Prevention Week—

KATV's *Little Rock Arc*—June 1 with Isley Gooden;

THV11's *The Vine*—June 2 with Ashley King; and

KARK's *AR Style*—June 4 with Nicole Niemann.



**Click on links below to view various articles:**

- [KATV article](#) Online Article—Arkansas Insurance Department highlights new "Prevent, Detect and Report"
- *Stuttgart Daily Leader* —[Arkansas Insurance Department encourages seniors to 'Prevent, Detect & Report' during ...](#)
- *ArkansasRadio.com* — [Arkansas Insurance Department Warns Seniors About Medicare Fraud During Prevention Week;](#)
- *ArkansasRadio.com*—[Medicare Scam Arkansas Archives - Arkansas Radio](#)
- *NEWSBreak*—[Arkansas Insurance Department Warns Seniors About Medicare Fraud During Prevention Week 6.1.26](#)
- *NEWSBreak*—[Arkansas Insurance Department Warns Seniors About Medicare Fraud - NewsBreak](#)
- **Arkansas Insurance Department**—['Prevent, Detect, Report' during Medicare Fraud Prevention Week - Arkansas Insurance Department](#)
- **Arkansas Department of Commerce**— <https://commerce.arkansas.gov/arkansas-insurance-department-medicare-fraud-prevention-week/>
- **PRESS RELEASE:** Arkansas Insurance Department—[Arkansas SMP highlights Medicare Fraud Prevention Week - Arkansas Insurance Department](#)
- **Little Rock Journal.com** — [Arkansas Insurance Department Encourages Seniors to 'Prevent, Detect & Report' During Medicare Fraud Prevention Week | Little Rock Journal](#)
- **LinkedIn** Post by [Gregory Evans, World Renown Cyber Security Expert, Keynote Speaker](#) |
- **National Cyber Security Website:** [Arkansas Insurance Department encourages seniors to 'Prevent, Detect & Report' during Medicare Fraud Prevention Week | #datingscams #romancescams - National Cyber Security Consulting](#)
- **ArkansasDailyPost.com**—Arkansas SMP Highlights Medicare Fraud Prevention Week — <https://www.arkansasdailypost.com/article/818625235-arkansas-smp-highlights-medicare-fraud-prevention-week>
- **Publicnow.com** — Arkansas SMP Highlights Medicare Fraud Prevention Week June 2, 2026 — [https://www.publicnow.com/view/49D484C6B2C7D6DAE72D859E06E83F765C7F2F8B?\\_cf\\_chl\\_f\\_tk=E\\_udkJaOlXWnwZcb6yk09V6v.co8NOoC7sMGkSo3YU-1783026319-1.0.1.1-uU1ADuWZQNHOTNZCojRdnEmHgMOzR2IVQltc7TUamVM](https://www.publicnow.com/view/49D484C6B2C7D6DAE72D859E06E83F765C7F2F8B?_cf_chl_f_tk=E_udkJaOlXWnwZcb6yk09V6v.co8NOoC7sMGkSo3YU-1783026319-1.0.1.1-uU1ADuWZQNHOTNZCojRdnEmHgMOzR2IVQltc7TUamVM)

**Serve your community.**  
***VOLUNTEER* for the Arkansas Senior Medicare Patrol.**  
**Free Training Available!**

AR SMP is currently recruiting *volunteers* to speak to small groups of their peers and help provide Medicare education at community events (exhibit booths at community health fairs). The role of *volunteers* is to share information that can help others PREVENT, DETECT, and REPORT Medicare fraud, waste, and abuse.

Go to: [www.ar.gov/SMP](http://www.ar.gov/SMP) or call **866-726-2916**





HHS will continue cracking down on these abuses, but we need your help. People with Medicare and their families are the first line of defense against health care fraud. Here's how you can get involved:

**Ignore, delete, and block.**

Don't respond to unsolicited texts and emails offering free medical services or supplies.

**Guard your card.**

Only share your beneficiary number with trusted health care providers. Anyone who offers you prepaid debit cards or other perks in exchange for your number is trying to scam you.

**Go over statements carefully.**

Make sure nobody's billing Medicare for services you didn't receive.

**Report suspected fraud.**

Call 1-800-MEDICARE to report fraud or reach out to your local Senior Medicare Patrol by calling 1-877-808-2468. [Arkansas SMP 1-866-726-2916]

Again, we want to thank the SMP team members for all their hard work, serving as trusted local partners that help beneficiaries detect, prevent, and report fraud in their communities. We want them to know that under this administration, they have a true partner and a protector in the White House.

We're done asking taxpayers to shell out more of their hard-earned money and letting older adults and people with disabilities go without essential care so criminals can buy themselves mansions and sports cars with their stolen millions. Together with the help of the SMPs and you, we're cutting the fraudsters off, shutting them down, and locking them up—this week and every week.

###

## Governor Issues Proclamation Recognizing Medicare Fraud Prevention Week

We are honored to announce that we received an official proclamation from Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders recognizing **Medicare Fraud Prevention Week** and the importance of protecting older adults from fraud, waste, and abuse.

This proclamation highlights the ongoing efforts of organizations, advocates, and community partners who work to educate Medicare beneficiaries, prevent healthcare fraud, and safeguard vital healthcare resources. Medicare fraud not only costs taxpayers billions of dollars each year but can also jeopardize beneficiaries' personal information and access to healthcare services.

During Medicare Fraud Prevention Week, we encourage everyone to learn how to prevent, detect and report suspected Medicare fraud. Through education, awareness, and community engagement, we can help ensure that Medicare remains strong and secure for current and future generations.

We are grateful for the Governor's recognition of this important initiative and for the continued support of efforts to empower beneficiaries with the knowledge and tools needed to protect themselves from fraud.

Together, we can make a difference in the fight against Medicare fraud.

**Protect. Detect. Report.**

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**  
**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME - GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Medicare is a vital program that provides essential health coverage for older adults and individuals with disabilities;

WHEREAS: Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse cost taxpayers billions of dollars annually while placing beneficiaries at risk of identity theft, financial loss, and compromised healthcare;

WHEREAS: The Senior Medicare Patrol program educates and empowers beneficiaries, caregivers, and professionals to prevent, detect, and report Medicare fraud and abuse;

WHEREAS: National awareness efforts each June help strengthen public understanding of Medicare fraud prevention and protect the integrity of the Medicare program; and

WHEREAS: Healthcare providers, aging services organizations, community partners, and state agencies all play an essential role in safeguarding the wellbeing and rights of Medicare beneficiaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim the 31st of May through the 6th of June 2026, as

"MEDICARE FRAUD PREVENTION WEEK"

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 3rd day of June, in the year of our Lord 2026.



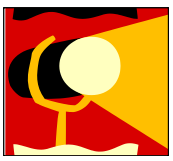
*Sarah Huckabee Sanders*  
Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor

Attest:

*Cole Jester*

Cole Jester, Secretary of State





# SMP IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

## Really Special and Valuable People!

Safety Outreach for Seniors (S.O.S.) held in Monticello on June 5, 2026 at the Sadie T Johnson community Center in partnership with Southeast AR Foster Grandparent Program was a great success! We had a lot of fun and wonderful sponsors! - Union Bank, Hospice Home Care, Commercial Bank, Mainline Health, Pafford Medical Services, Drew Co. Sheriff's Department, Ageless Grace (UAMS So AR COA)—door prizes, food and lots of fun!



AR SMP participated in a panel discussion with JoEllen Cooper (Encompass Health), Patricia Fry (AARP) and Brandie Vaughter (VP Medical Consulting) at the Alzheimer's Arkansas Caregivers Workshop at the Little Rock City Center on May 1! The valuable information shared with attendees was well received! Thank you for the invitation, Kimberly Kinder,



Thank you to our partners at UAMS, South Arkansas Center on Aging for hosting an SMP Exhibit Booth at a health fair at Oak Ridge nursing home in EL



### VOCABULARY—

#### *What is an Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN)?*

- ◆ Notice a provider should give beneficiaries, if based on Medicare coverage rules, the provider believes Medicare will deny payment for the service;
- ◆ Serves as a warning that Medicare may not pay for the service;
- ◆ Only provided to Original Medicare beneficiaries
- ◆ Must list the reason why the provider believes Medicare will deny payment (ex: "Medicare only pays for this test once every three years")

ARTA 4.13.26 Sheba's Restaurant in Hope. Thank you, Glenda Clark for the invitation. This was a great small group—very enthusiastic with a lot of input and Q&A! Good food too!

## Celebrating 250 Years of the United States of America!

This year marks 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. This anniversary provides an opportunity to reflect on the courage, vision, and determination of those who established a nation founded on principles of liberty, equality, and self-government.

As we honor our nation's past, we also recognize that the values of civic responsibility, community service, and protecting one another—remain as important today as ever. The Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program carries those values forward by helping safeguard older Americans from fraud, scams, and abuse.

The SMP volunteers and partners continue that tradition by helping beneficiaries prevent, detect, and report health care fraud. Fraud against older adults has become one of the fastest growing crimes in America.

Scammers use phone calls, text messages, email, social media, and now artificial intelligence (AI) to impersonate trusted organizations to steal money and personal information.

The good news is that education works!



SMP programs across the country have empowered millions of Medicare beneficiaries, their family members and caregivers to review Medicare statements, recognize the warning signs, and report suspicious activity. Every informed beneficiary helps strengthen the integrity of Medicare and protect taxpayer dollars.

As America enters its next 250 years, whether by serving a neighbor, volunteering in the community, or helping someone recognize a scam, each of us can contribute to a safer, stronger future.

This anniversary, let's honor the past by protecting the present and building a brighter tomorrow.

## Happy 250th Birthday, America!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Savvy Senior Computer Safety Series:**

**10:00 am | Benton Senior Center**  
JULY 10

#### **Cyber Security Safety**

**1:30pm | Saline County Library | Benton**  
JULY 17 — Check Cashing Scams  
AUGUST 21—AI Scams—Do You Know Who It Is?  
SEPTEMBER 25—Medicare.gov—and Be Ready for OEP

#### **SMP Fraud/Scam Awareness Class**

**10:00 am | Bryant Senior Center**  
JULY 14—Understanding the Medicare Summary Notice  
AUGUST 11  
SEPTEMBER 8

#### **SMP Fraud Bingo**

**10:00 am | Gurdon Senior Center**  
JULY 8

#### **SMP Presentation**

**10:00 am | Rogers Public Library**  
AUGUST 12

#### **SMP Presentation**

**11:00 am | St. John's Missionary Baptist Church | LRA**  
AUGUST 13

#### **SMP Presentation**

**10:00 am | Franklin County Library | Ozark**  
AUGUST 17

#### **SAFETY OUTREACH FOR SENIORS (S.O.S.)**

**9am—2pm | Garland County Library | Hot Springs**  
AUGUST 19

#### **SMP Fraud Bingo**

**10AM | Mt Ida Senior Center**  
AUGUST 27

#### **SAFETY OUTREACH FOR SENIORS (S.O.S.)**

**9am—2:30pm | C-Hall | Magnolia**  
SEPTEMBER 17

#### **SMP Presentation**

**11am | EHC | Batesville**  
SEPTEMBER 18

#### **SAFETY OUTREACH FOR SENIORS (S.O.S.)**

**9-2:00 | SEAR COOP SERV FGP | Warren**  
SEPTEMBER 25



## HOSPICE FRAUD:

Someone you don't know calls, emails, or texts you offering free medical equipment or services. What should you do?  
**Hang up. Delete it.**

Only you and your doctor should decide what care and services are right for you. Only your doctor should order medical equipment or services.

Scammers want your Medicare information so they can bill Medicare for services you don't need — like hospice (end-of-life care), home health care, or durable medical equipment (like a brace or cane).

Hospice scams are particularly harmful!

If a scammer signs you up for hospice care without your knowledge, **you could lose access to your regular Medicare benefits.**

**NOTE:** To root out fraud, Medicare has temporarily stopped allowing *new* home health and hospice agencies from opening. **This doesn't affect your care.** If you and your doctor decide you need home health or hospice services, you can still get them from existing agencies in your area



**A hacker called and said he had all my passwords! I got a pen and paper and said "thank God for that!"**

## DID YOU KNOW?

SMP counselors are trained in fraud control. Through our Senior Medicare Patrol outreach, we work to educate Arkansans on how to prevent, detect and report health care fraud, errors and abuse.

If you suspect you or a loved one may have been a victim of Medicare fraud, call us to report it at 1-866-726-2916. We can help you get the answers and support you need.

## CAN'T AFFORD PART B PREMIUM?

Help may be available if you cannot afford your Medicare premiums. If you struggle to pay for your coverage, you may be eligible for financial support. Contact your AR SHIIP at 1-800-224-6330 for more information. If you qualify, AR SHIIP will help you apply for assistance.

**YOU CAN STOP MEDICARE FRAUD**  
**IT'S EASY AS 1-2-3**

- 1. PROTECT**  
YOUR MEDICARE NUMBER
- 2. DETECT**  
READ YOUR MEDICARE SUMMARY NOTICE
- 3. REPORT**  
YOUR CONCERNS TO ARKANSAS SMP AT 866-726-2916

Supported in part by grant #00MPPG0008 of the U.S. Administration for Community Living (ACL) Department of Health and Human Services, Washington D.C.

**SMP**  
Senior Medicare Patrol  
Preventing Medicare Fraud

**See below some of the fraud trends the Senior Medicare Patrol programs reported seeing on a national level in May:**

- ⇒ Urinary catheters still remain top on the list as most prevalent;
- ⇒ DME—continually rampant is billing for braces never ordered and/or never received | faxes for DME
- ⇒ Glucose monitors
- ⇒ Genetic Testing
- ⇒ Hospice

And...many more.

**Watch for these on your MSNs!**

A few new trends include: drainage bags, humidifiers, and manual transanal irrigation systems.

**REMEMBER:** Reporting errors and suspected fraud may lead to further investigation and additional scrutiny of a provider's billing practices.



# Be aware of **SCAMS**

Report all scams to the Arkansas SMP — **866-726-2916**

## Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM)

Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) lets health care providers keep track of parts of a person's health while they are at home instead of only during office visits. It can help reduce the need for in-person appointments, save on travel costs, and lower the risk of being exposed to illness at a doctor's office. This can be especially helpful for people with ongoing health conditions or trouble getting around. Providers may monitor things like heart rate, blood sugar, blood pressure, or breathing and use that information to help manage health problems and make treatment decisions between visits.

There is the possibility of potential scams/fraud with RPM. There are cases where services may be offered without clear medical need, explained incompletely, or billing for services that do not reflect the level of care actually provided.

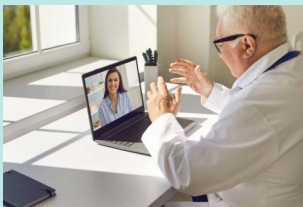
Patients may be contacted by companies through phone calls, online ads, or television promotions offering RPM services or devices. While some of these offers are legitimate, others may be scams especially if offering "free" products or requesting personal or Medicare information without involving the patient's regular provider.

## Warning Signs of scams/fraud:

- ◆ Charges on your Medicare statements for RPM (physiological or therapeutic) that you didn't need, you didn't get, you didn't agree to, or that were from a provider you do not know.
- ◆ You are offered a "free" device that tracks your daily steps, like a smartwatch, in exchange for your Medicare number or other personal information.
- ◆ You are told RPM services are free to Medicare beneficiaries and then RPM services are billed to Medicare.
- ◆ Your doctor's office calls to ask how you are doing. Later, you notice they billed the phone call to Medicare as a RPM service.



## Virtual check-in vs. Telehealth visit



Virtual check-ins allow you to communicate with your doctor through audio and video communication technology or by sending photo or video images for remote assessment. Your doctor can respond by phone, secure text messaging, email, or use of a patient portal. **Unlike a telehealth visit, a virtual check-in is not a full appointment.** Medicare covers both virtual check-ins and telehealth visits.

**DID YOU RECEIVE A LETTER FROM CMS WITH A NEW MEDICARE CARD? *IT IS LEGITIMATE ...but as always....there is the potential for increased scams whenever new cards are issued.***

### New Medicare Cards Arriving for Some

Roughly 1.3 million Medicare beneficiaries began receiving new Medicare cards in March, 2026. Several beneficiaries have contacted the Center for Medicare Advocacy (CMA) and the AR SMP due to receiving new cards. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) did not give much explanation for receiving the new Medicare numbers and cards, but it is likely linked to previous security breaches and fraudulent activity.

### Learn what to watch out for:

- Medicare will never contact beneficiaries by phone to issue a new card OR to ask if you received your new card.
- Medicare cards are free.
- Medicare cards are NOT plastic – they are paper.
- Medicare cards do not require "activation" or "expire" (like credit or debit cards).



# HHS Announces Federal Elder Justice Action Plan and the EJCC's "Never EVER" Campaign to Protect Older Americans

*Federal strategy strengthens rights, prevention, enforcement, and public awareness to stop elder abuse, exploitation, and imposter scams*

**WASHINGTON — June 9, 2026 —** Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Elder Justice Coordinating Council (EJCC), announced the [Federal Elder Justice Action Plan \[PDF\]](#), a government-wide strategy to protect older Americans' rights, strengthen accountability, and make help easier to find. The announcement also launches "Never EVER," a national campaign that advances the Action Plan's prevention goals by helping people recognize and avoid government and business imposter scams.

Chaired by the HHS Secretary, the EJCC brings together seventeen federal departments and agencies to strengthen collaboration, advance elder justice nationwide, and protect older adults' dignity, independence, and financial security. The Action Plan builds on the EJCC's 2014 Eight Recommendations with measurable steps to prevent harm, disrupt exploitation, hold bad actors accountable, and connect older Americans to help.

Financial exploitation, including imposter scams, is one of the urgent threats the Action Plan seeks to address. Research estimates that

roughly one in ten older adults' experiences abuse, neglect, or exploitation each year. Scammers often impersonate government agencies or well-known businesses to pressure people into giving up money, account access, or personal information. Some schemes also create safety risks by pushing victims to withdraw cash, transfer funds, or meet someone in person.

"President Trump and I are committed to ensuring every American can age with dignity, independence, and security," said HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. "Scammers steal an estimated \$28 billion from older Americans each year. Through the Federal Elder Justice Action Plan and the 'Never EVER' campaign, the Trump administration is protecting seniors, supporting victims, and holding criminals accountable. The message is simple: no government agency will ever tell you to move your money to 'protect it' — that's a scam."

Adult Protective Services programs receive approximately 1.3 million reports each year, while family caregivers often carry the financial, physical, and emotional burden when an older loved one is left without the resources they need. Despite the scale of the problem, many cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation are never reported.

"ACL is proud to serve as the lead agency coordinating the Elder Justice Coordinating Council and helping bring federal partners together to turn elder justice commitments into actions and resources for older adults, families, and caregivers," said Mary Lazare, Principal Deputy

Administrator for the Administration for Community Living. "The Federal Elder Justice Action Plan will expand the EJCC's work even further by moving awareness into positive outcomes — strengthening prevention and reporting, improving coordination across partner agencies, and connecting older adults and caregivers to the wraparound supports they need before lasting harm occurs."

The "Never EVER" campaign reinforces that warning with practical examples. Real government agencies will not tell people to move money to "protect it," demand unusual forms of payment, or ask for a Social Security number to determine eligibility for a government grant.

As the nation's older adult population continues to grow, coordinated federal action remains critical to uphold rights, promote independence, prevent exploitation, and help people age safely. The Action Plan gives federal partners a shared roadmap for making elder justice efforts more consistent, visible, and responsive nationwide.

For more information, visit the [Elder Justice Coordinating Council website](#) for details about the Council, the Federal Elder Justice Action Plan, and the "Never EVER" campaign.

*The Elder Justice Coordinating Council's 'Never EVER Campaign' for WEAAD, which is being done in partnership with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and Department of Justice (DOJ), will take place June 15 to June 26. The goal is to collaborate with government agencies and businesses across the country to raise public awareness on how to recognize and avoid imposter scams. See the [SMP Resource Library entry](#) for resources and materials.*

## FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

Financial exploitation is the fraudulent or otherwise illegal, unauthorized, or improper act or process of an individual, including a caregiver or fiduciary, that uses the resources of an elder for monetary or personal benefit, profit, or gain, or that results in depriving an elder of rightful access to, or use of, benefits, resources, belongings, or assets. —Elder Justice Act

## SCAMS AND FRAUDS

Scams and frauds are acts targeting older adults in which attempts are made to deceive with promises of goods, services, or financial benefits that do not exist, were never intended to be provided, or were misrepresented. This differs from financial exploitation carried out by a relative or other known and trusted person, and may include robocalls and online scams.

# FRAUD IN THE NEWS —



## **AR Attorney General announces two arrests, one conviction made for Medicaid fraud (Arkansas and Tennessee)**

April 9, 2026

A North Little Rock woman, employed as a personal aid, was arrested after she billed Medicaid \$46,977.05 for care services for her spouse. Spouses are not permitted to receive payment for providing caregiving services. Also, all claimed services and reported service time conflicted with her other employment.

A Gurdon woman was sentenced to five years of probation, a \$500 fine, plus court costs, and restitution totaling \$2,597.06 for exploitation of a vulnerable person. She used her client's debit card to make unauthorized food and grocery purchases through DoorDash.

A Tennessee doctor allegedly billed Medicaid \$9,150.00 for psychotherapy services he did not perform.

SOURCE: [Arkansas attorney general announces two arrests, one conviction made for Medicaid fraud | thv11.com](#)

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## **North Little Rock lab pays \$30M to settle "unnecessary medical testing" allegations**

June 18, 2026

Little Rock (KATV) — Advanced Pathology Solutions, (APS) a laboratory headquartered in North Little Rock, has agreed in a settlement to pay \$30 million to the federal government to resolve allegations that it created a business model based on kickbacks and incentivizing fraudulent claims.

Federal attorneys say APS and its owners not only gave kickbacks to doctors to refer patients to their lab, but also implemented policies to order extra, unnecessary tests that were billable to Medicare.

The federal government became involved in 2020 after a whistleblower brought the allegations to light. Click on link below for additional information:

SOURCE: [North Little Rock lab pays \\$30M to settle "unnecessary medical testing" allegations](#)

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## **Huntington Park Medical Practice and Doctor to Pay More Than \$6.7 Million to Settle Allegations of Billing Medicare for Unnecessary Procedures**

A Huntington Park-based medical practice and its physician have agreed to pay more than \$6.7 million to resolve allegations that they violated the False Claims Act by submitting false claims for medically unnecessary vascular interventional procedures on 20 Medicare beneficiaries. For example, although patients complained of pain only in one leg, he performed procedures on both legs and then repeated them every few months. He told patients that if they did not receive the procedure, their legs would need to be amputated, when, in fact, there was little risk of amputation for mildly symptomatic peripheral artery disease. SOURCE: [Central District of California | Huntington Park Medical Practice and Doctor to Pay More Than \\$6.7 Million to Settle Allegations of Billing Medicare for Unnecessary Procedures | United States Department of Justice](#)

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## **Two Sentenced to Prison for \$522M Genetic Testing Fraud and Illegal Kickback Scheme Targeting Medicare and Medicaid**

05/04/2026

Two men were sentenced for their roles in a scheme to defraud Medicare, Medicaid, and private health insurance companies by submitting over \$522 million in fraudulent claims for medically unnecessary genetic tests that were obtained through the payment of illegal kickbacks and bribes. SOURCE: [Office of Public Affairs | Two Sentenced to Prison for \\$522M Genetic Testing Fraud and Illegal Kickback Scheme Targeting Medicare and Medicaid | United States Department of Justice](#)

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## **Owner of Health Care Software Company Convicted of 1 Billion Dollar Medicare Fraud Conspiracy**

A federal jury in Florida convicted the founder and owner of a healthcare software company for his role in operating a platform that generated false doctors' orders and prescriptions to defraud Medicare and other federal health care benefit programs out of more than \$1 billion by aggressively targeting hundreds of thousands of Medicare beneficiaries to get them to accept medically unnecessary orthotic braces and other items. They then arranged for purported telemedicine doctors to sign bogus prescription orders for these items, so that their co-conspirators could bill Medicare for them. They connected pharmacies, DME suppliers, and marketers with telemedicine companies that would accept illegal kickbacks and bribes in exchange for signed doctors' orders created, and he and his co-conspirators took a cut for themselves in exchange for the referrals. SOURCE: [Office of Public Affairs | Owner of Health Care Software Company Convicted of 1 Billion Dollar Medicare Fraud Conspiracy | United States Department of Justice](#)

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## **[Bureau of Immigration] BI arrests US fraud suspect linked to \$2B healthcare scam**

South Carolina—A 60 year old American national, was arrested June 11 for allegedly orchestrating a healthcare scheme involving fraudulent marketing and distribution of unnecessary orthopedic braces billed to Medicare for more than \$2 billion. He was deported and has been included on the Bureau of Investigation's blacklist.

SOURCE: [BI arrests US fraud suspect linked to \\$2B healthcare scam | Bureau of Immigration Philippines](#)

**REPORT all fraud/scams to the Arkansas SMP — 866-726-2916**



## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

**AANHR**—AR Advocates for Nursing Home Residents **501-548-8423**  
**Acentra Health** (Quality Improvement Org.) **1-888-315-0636**  
**AFMC**—AR Foundation for Medical Care **1-888-354-9100**  
**Area Agency on Aging** **1-800-986-3505**  
**AG—Attorney General** (Consmr Prot Div) **1-800-482-8982**  
**AG Medicaid Fraud Hotline** **1-866-810-0016**  
**APS**—Adult Protective Services (DHS) **1-800-482-8049**  
**Alzheimer's Arkansas** **501-224-0021**  
**Arkansas Rehabilitation Services** **1-800-981-4463**  
**AR SMP** (Healthcare Fraud & Scams) **1-866-726-2916**  
**Better Business Bureau (BBB)** **501-664-7274**  
**CareLink (Pulaski Co)** **501-372-5300**  
**CMS**—(Medicare)— (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services)  
(**1-800MEDICARE**) **1-800-633-4227**  
**Community Health Centers of AR** **1-877-666-2422**  
**Coordination of Benefits** **1-855-798-2627**  
**DHS** (Customer Assistance Unit) **1-800-482-8988**  
**DHS Resource Center** **1-866-801-3435**  
**Do Not Call Registry** **1-888-382-1222**  
**Elder Care Locator** **1-800-677-1116**  
**El Dorado RSVP** **1-870-864-7080**  
**Federal Trade Commission**  
Report **STOLEN IDENTITY** **1-877-438-4338**  
**HomeCare Assoc of AR** **501-376-2273**  
**ICan**—Increasing Capabilities Access Network **501-666-8868**  
**LGBT Elder Hotline** **888-234-SAGE**  
**Medicaid**—(Claims Unit) **1-800-482-5431**  
**Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG)** **1-855-527-6644**  
**MEDICARE** (CMS 1-800MEDICARE) **1-800-633-4227**  
**Medicare Part D** **1-877-772-3379**  
**Medicare Rights Center** **1-800-333-4114**  
**Oaklawn Foundation/Center on Aging** **501-623-0020**  
**OIG**—Nat'l Medicare Fraud Hotline **1-800-HHS-TIPS**  
(OIG) Office of Inspector General **1-800-447-8477**  
**OLTC**—Office of Long Term Care **1-800-LTC-4887**  
**Ombudsman**—State Ofc of Long Term Care **501-682-8952**  
**Resource Center (ADRC)** **1-866-801-3435**  
(DHS'S Choices in Living Resource Center)  
**SHIIP** (Senior Health Ins. Info Program) **1-800-224-6330**  
**SMP Locator**—(locate an SMP outside AR) **1-877-808-2468**  
**SSA** (Social Security Administration) **1-800-772-1213**  
Little Rock Office **1-866-593-0933**  
**SSA Fraud Hotline** **1-800-269-0271**  
**Texarkana Regional Center on Aging** **1-870-773-2030**  
**UALR Senior Justice Center** **501-683-7153**  
**UofA Cooperative Extension Service** **501-671-2000**

## HELPFUL WEBSITES:

**AR Advocates for Nursing Home Residents**  
(AANHR)—[www.aanhr.org](http://www.aanhr.org); *email*: [Info@aanhr.org](mailto:Info@aanhr.org)  
**AR Long Term Care Ombudsman Program**—  
[www.arombudsman.com](http://www.arombudsman.com)  
**Arkansas Attorney General**—[www.arkansasag.gov](http://www.arkansasag.gov)  
**Arkansas Attorney General Consumer Protection Division**—*email*: [Consumer@ArkansasAG.gov](mailto:Consumer@ArkansasAG.gov)  
**Area Agencies on Aging**—[agingarkansas.org](http://agingarkansas.org)  
**Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care**—[www.afmc.org](http://www.afmc.org)  
**Arkansas SMP**—[aid.insurance.smp/Arkansas.gov](http://aid.insurance.smp/Arkansas.gov)  
**BBB (Better Business Bureau)**—scams and alerts—  
[www.bbb.org/scamtracker](http://www.bbb.org/scamtracker)  
**Choices in Living Resource Center** (DHS)—  
[humanservices.arkansas.gov/divisions-shared-services-aging-adult-behavioral-health-services/choices-in-living-resource-center/](http://humanservices.arkansas.gov/divisions-shared-services-aging-adult-behavioral-health-services/choices-in-living-resource-center/)  
**CMS (Medicare) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services**—  
[www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov)  
**Do Not Call**—[www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov)  
**Report Unwanted Calls**—  
<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us>  
**Do Not Mail**—[www.DMAchoice.org](http://www.DMAchoice.org)  
**Sage**—[www.sageusa.org](http://www.sageusa.org)  
**Elder Care Locator**—[www.eldercare.acl.gov/home](http://www.eldercare.acl.gov/home)  
**Federal Trade Commission**—[www.reportfraud.ftc.gov](http://www.reportfraud.ftc.gov)  
(and) [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov)  
**MEDICAID**—[www.Medicaid.gov](http://www.Medicaid.gov)  
**MEDICAID INSPECTOR GENERAL (OMIG)**—  
[ig.arkansas.gov/medicaid-inspector-general/](http://ig.arkansas.gov/medicaid-inspector-general/)  
**MEDICARE**—[www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov)  
**Medicare Interactive Counselor**—  
[www.medicareinteractive.org](http://www.medicareinteractive.org)  
**Care Compare**—[www.medicare.gov/care-compare](http://www.medicare.gov/care-compare)  
**Medicare Account**—[www.medicare.gov/account/login](http://www.medicare.gov/account/login)  
(Access to your personal Medicare claims information)  
**National Council on Aging**—[www.noa.org/older-adults/benefits/healthcare/medicare](http://www.noa.org/older-adults/benefits/healthcare/medicare)  
**Office of Long Term Care**—[humanservices.arkansas.gov/divisions-shared-services/provider-services-quality-assurance/office-of-long-term-care/](http://humanservices.arkansas.gov/divisions-shared-services/provider-services-quality-assurance/office-of-long-term-care/)  
**AR SHIIP**—[insurance.arkansas.gov/consumer-services/senior-health/](http://insurance.arkansas.gov/consumer-services/senior-health/)  
**SMP Locator**—[SMPResource.org](http://SMPResource.org) (locate an SMP outside of AR)  
**Social Security Administration (SSA)**—[www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)  
**SSA—Report SS Fraud**—[oig.ssa.gov/report](http://oig.ssa.gov/report)  
**TAP**—[dws.arkansas.gov/ar-rehabilitation-services/access-accomodations/telecommunication-access-programtap/](http://dws.arkansas.gov/ar-rehabilitation-services/access-accomodations/telecommunication-access-programtap/)  
(Telecommunications Access Program)  
**UAMS Centers on Aging**—[UAMSCentersOnAging.org](http://UAMSCentersOnAging.org)  
**UAMS Institute on Aging**—[aging.uams.edu](http://aging.uams.edu)

# SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL (SMP) MISSION

“To empower and assist Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers to prevent, detect, and report health care fraud, error, and abuse through outreach, counseling, and education.”

## TO PREVENT HEALTHCARE FRAUD—

### Protect Personal Information

- \* Treat Medicare/Medicaid and Social Security numbers like credit card numbers.
- \* Remember, Medicare will not call or make personal visits to sell anything!
- \* READ and SAVE Medicare Summary Notices (MSN) and Part D Explanation of benefits (EOB), but **shred** before discarding.

### Detect Errors, Fraud, and Abuse

- \* Always review MSN and EOB for mistakes.
- \* Compare them with your Personal Health Care Journal.
- \* Visit **WWW.MYMEDICARE.GOV** to access your personal account online to look for charges for something you did not get, billing for the same thing more than once, and services that were not ordered and/or you never received.

### Report Mistakes or Questions

- \* If you suspect errors, fraud, or abuse, report it immediately! Call your provider or plan first.
- \* If you are not satisfied with their response, call the Arkansas SMP.

## TO RECRUIT & TRAIN VOLUNTEERS—

- \* Retired seniors;
- \* Retired health-care providers; or
- \* Retired professionals, e.g., teachers, accountants, attorneys, investigators, nurses.



To receive the **Arkansas SMP Newsletter** call or email:  
[aid.insurance.smp@arkansas.gov](mailto:aid.insurance.smp@arkansas.gov) — 866-726-2916



Arkansas Senior Medicare Patrol (AR SMP)  
Arkansas Insurance Department (AID)  
1 Commerce Way  
Little Rock AR 72202

Report Medicare Fraud, Error & Abuse  
1-866-726-2916 / website: [ar.gov/SMP](http://ar.gov/SMP)

## AR SMP PARTNERS

**AmeriCorpsSeniors RSVP / El Dorado**  
El Dorado, AR  
870-864-7080

**AmeriCorpsSeniors RSVP / Central AR**  
Little Rock, AR  
501-897-0793

**AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP**  
**Southeast AR Educ Service Coop**  
**Foster Grandparent Program**  
Monticello, AR  
870-367-4819

**UAMS Centers on Aging (ConA)**  
**ConA Northeast**  
870-207-7598

**Delta ConA**  
870-714-3061  
**Schmieding ConA**  
479-365-2855

**South AR ConA**  
870-881-8969  
**South Central ConA**  
870-879-1440

**Texarkana ConA**  
870-773-2030  
**West Central ConA**  
479-478-8819

**Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)**  
**White River AAA**  
870-612-3000

**AAA of Southeast AR**  
870-226-5769  
**AAA of Western AR**  
479-424-2012  
**AAA of Southwest AR**  
870-234-7410