

Medicaid Fraud Report

March / April 2000

Psychiatrists: Florida

On March 27, Dr. **Gregg L. Friedman**, a psychiatrist, was arrested and charged with Medicaid fraud, Attorney General Butterworth announced.

Through a one-year investigation conducted by the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, investigators were able to determine that Dr. Friedman billed the Florida Medicaid program in excess of \$ 1 million. According to the investigation, Friedman billed for services never rendered to his Medicaid clients, as well as billing for having provided individual psychiatric sessions when, in fact, group sessions were conducted. This illegal activity, occurring between January 1997 and December 1998, has netted Friedman a total of \$ 207,000.

Friedman has been charged with two first degree felonies, Grand Theft and Organized Scheme to Defraud, which carry a 30 year prison term and a fine of \$ 10,000 for each count. He is also charged with 18 counts of Medicaid fraud, a third degree felony carrying a five year prison term and a \$ 5,000 fine for each count.

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