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HEALTHCARE WORKER JIANZHU LIANG SENTENCED FOR MEDICAID FRAUD

Las Vegas – The Office of the Nevada Attorney General reports that Las Vegas Jianzhu Liang, age 51, was sentenced for Medicaid Fraud. Liang pled guilty to a gross misdemeanor offense: Intentional Failure to Maintain Adequate Records. Liang was sentenced to 60 days in jail, suspended, 3 years of probation, performance of 40 hours of community service and payment of \$9,220.00 in restitution, penalties, and costs. The case was investigated and prosecuted by the Attorney General’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU).

“We benefit our neediest citizens and protect the Medicaid system when we prosecute anyone who would defraud the system and steal Medicaid dollars,” said Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto.

In 2010, Nevada Medicaid provided information to the MFCU that Liang was suspected of not providing personal care services to a Medicaid recipient for which she had nonetheless still received payment from Medicaid. Medicaid has a personal care assistant program to keep people living independently in their own homes by providing basic services, including bathing, dressing, cleaning and meal preparation. Liang was employed by a home care company to provide the actual day-to-day care for two recipients. It was discovered that Liang indeed failed to provide care services for the patients for whom she was employed, yet claimed that she performed the services and received payment as if she had actually performed the services.

Persons convicted of Medicaid fraud may also be excluded from future Medicaid participation.

The Nevada Attorney General’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit investigates and prosecutes financial fraud by those providing healthcare services or goods to Medicaid patients. The unit also investigates and prosecutes instances of elder abuse or neglect. Anyone wishing to report suspicions regarding any of these concerns may contact the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit in Carson City (775) 684-1191 or in Las Vegas (702) 486-3187. Medicaid fraud information can also be found on the Attorney General’s web site: <http://ag.state.nv.us>