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FORMER MEDICAID PROVIDER PATRICIA CALDWELL SENTENCED FOR MEDICAID FRAUD

Las Vegas – Patricia Caldwell, age 48, was sentenced today for two felony offenses of Submission of False Claims: Medicaid Fraud as well as a gross misdemeanor for Failure to Maintain Adequate Records. District Court Judge Michelle Leavitt sentenced her to 12-34 months in jail, suspended; payment of \$125,000 in restitution, penalties, and costs; 40 hours of community service; and five years probation in this Medicaid fraud case. The case was investigated and prosecuted by the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit.

"Medicaid fraud victimizes all taxpayers, as well the individuals requiring Medicaid services," said Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto. "An important part of the prosecution of these crimes is the restitution penalty that returns funds to the Medicaid program. This helps ensure continued support of those in need of services."

The investigation of Mrs. Caldwell began after information was obtained that she, as the owner of Fields of Wellness Homes, was not providing services to Medicaid recipients that resided at Fields of Wellness. Mrs. Caldwell was a Medicaid provider that enrolled Fields of Wellness as a Behavioral Health Outpatient Treatment. Nevada Medicaid reimburses for community-based and inpatient mental health services to both children and adults under a combination of mental health rehabilitation, medical/clinical, and institutional authority.

Interviews with Medicaid recipients and former employees of Fields of Wellness showed that Mrs. Caldwell was not providing the services as indicated on claims submitted to Medicaid. Mrs. Caldwell and her staff were allegedly providing Behavior Skills Training (BST) and Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR) services to the Medicaid recipients. The Medicaid recipients denied receiving services and many recipients denied residing at or