FRAUD ALERT

THE OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR CALLS FOR INCREASED AWARENESS IN EFFORTS FOR PREVENTION

State Auditor Colón Issues Warning for Vulnerable Populations

On the heels of a national $1.2 Billion Medicare scheme, State Auditor Colón is calling for vigilance in ensuring New Mexico's most vulnerable populations are protected.

Health care fraud results in higher health care costs for New Mexicans and takes away from funding intended to support those who need it most. The OSA is committed to identifying fraud, waste, and abuse to save taxpayer money by cracking down on fraudulent schemes and abuse in Medicare and Medicaid programs.

"Trust is broken. We need to protect New Mexicans from fraudsters who will steal funds meant to help our elderly and other vulnerable populations. We must act now to prevent what happened in California, Florida, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Texas from happening in New Mexico." said State Auditor Colón. "I am concerned it could happen here, so we ask that every New Mexican take action. If you suspect any instance of fraud, waste, and abuse report it to our office immediately."

According to the Legislative Finance Committee's 2018 Accountability Report on Medicaid, HSD projects $5.7 billion in expenditures for FY19, which includes over $1.2 billion in state funds. The nearly $6 billion dollar program ensures the most vulnerable New Mexicans, including children and the elderly, are provided with healthcare.

Reports may be made anonymously through our website at www.saonm.org or by calling 1-866-OSA-FRAUD. You may also speak to an investigator by calling 505-476-3800.

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>
> *- State Auditor, Brian S. Colón*

BE AWARE!

POTENIAL RED FLAGS

- Billing Errors

- Be aware of pressure from providers for unnecessary services or other medical equipment

- Guard your private information

- Report suspicious activity