

# The Daily Edition

50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, February 3, 2020

## Man tells deputy next time he sees him he's gonna whip him!



Ricky Mills

## Customer becomes assailant at local restaurant



Jimmy Evans

see Charged pg. 3

see Whipping pg. 2

## Family Physician Pays \$285,000 To Settle False Claims Act Allegations Of Billing Services At Inflated Rate

Knoxville, Tenn. – Family physician Dr. Chang-Wen Chen and his practice Chang-Wen Chen, M.D., P.C. paid \$285,000 to resolve allegations that they violated the False Claims Act by improperly charging government health care programs the physi-

cian's rate for services that were provided by nurse practitioners. The allegations challenged billings submitted to Medicare, Medicaid ("TennCare") and TRICARE from 2013 through 2019.

Medicare and TennCare reimburse at the higher physician rate see Physician pg. 5

## DUI charge follows wreck



Howard Pesterfield

See Wreck P.3

## Leader of Fraud Ring Sentenced

*Protect Yourself from Business Email Compromise Schemes*  
A leader of an international criminal network that stole millions of dollars from two American businesses while pretending to be a legitimate vendor is now in prison. Evaldas Rimauskas was one of the orchestrators of the Lithuania-based

See Fraud Ring P.4

### Verse of the Day

Then I said to you, "Do not be terrified; do not be afraid of them. The LORD your God, who is going before you, will fight for you, as he did for you in Egypt,

before your very eyes."

— Deuteronomy 1:29-30

### Wazzup

Is it gonna warm up? Is it gonna be cold? It's that East Tennessee Weather for ya for sure!

### Weather

Today: Overcast. High of

63F.

Tonight: Cool. Low of 41F

Tuesday: Slight chance of rain. High of 60F.

Tuesday night: cool. Low of 53F.

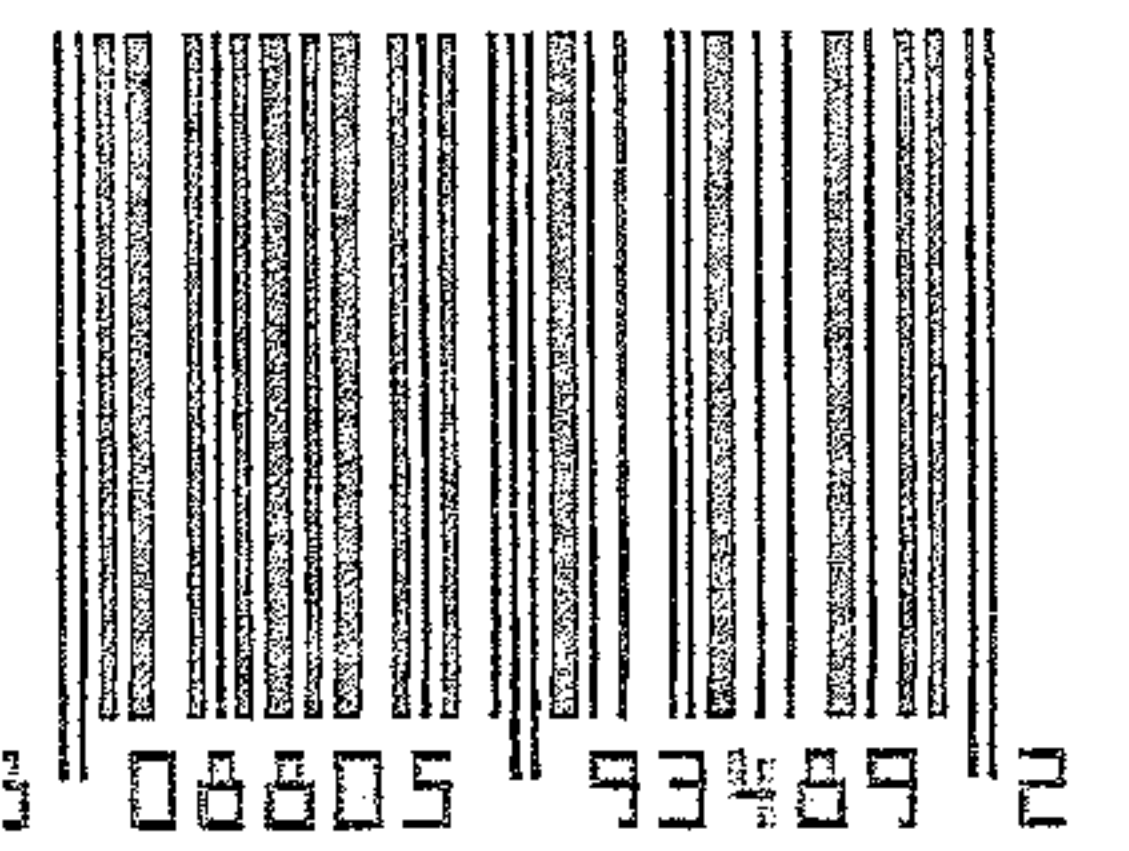
### Horoscopes

Aquarius 1/20-2/18

Your calendar may seem

unmanageable today because theres so many new and unscheduled events. It appears as if you only spin faster in circles the more you attempt to regain control over your daily routine. Luckily,

(Continued on page 6)





### Whipping

Ricky Mills, 34, Setterburg Road Philadelphia, was charged with Retaliation for Past Acts, Domestic Assault, and Resisting Arrest. Deputy W. Jenkins LCSO, responded to W Lee Hwy in reference to an assault. Once on scene Deputy made contact with the victim who stated that after Deputies left the residence earlier in the

night from arresting Randi Wells from the address on a Violation of Probation Warrant, that Ricky Mills started beating on victim for letting Deputies into the residence. Victim stated that Mills took her phone, keys and ID. The victim then advised that Mills pushed her against the wall, pinned her on the bed and ripped her sweatshirt off. Victim then fled the scene

in fear of being further harmed by Mills. Victim ran approx.. 1.4 miles in 40 degree weather, to a residence on W Lee Hwy where the residence gave

her clothing, shelter and called 911. Deputies then went and made contact with Mills and attempted to place Mills in custody.

Whipping ctd. pg. 3

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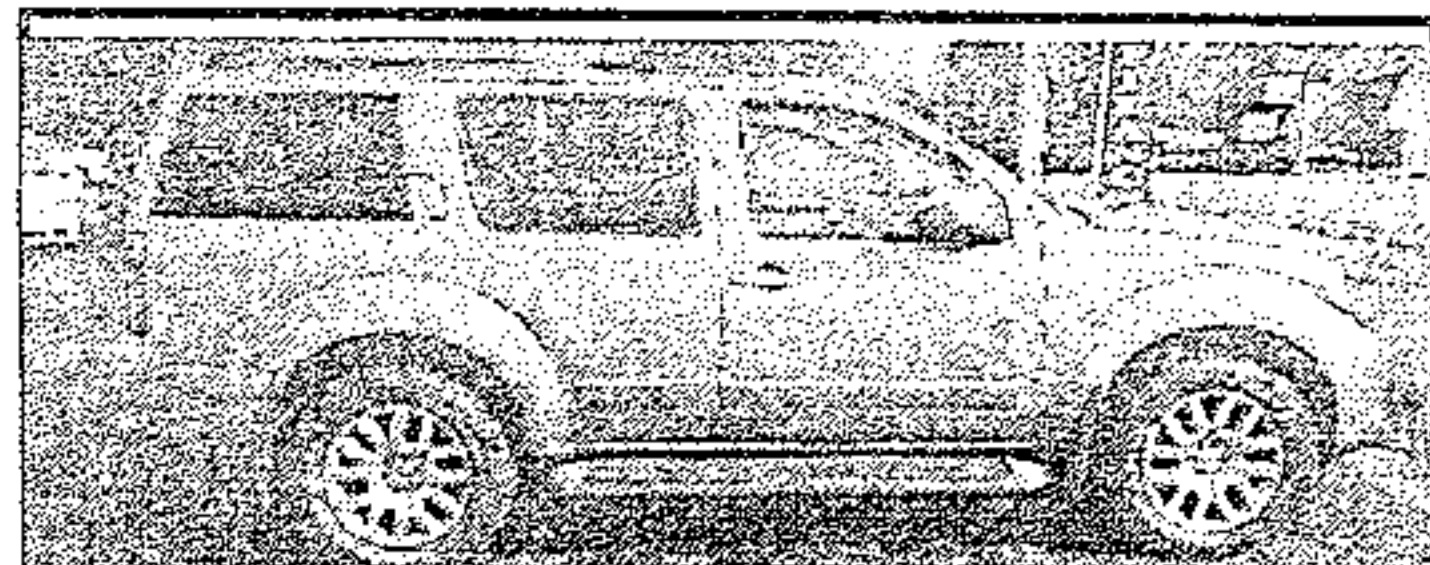
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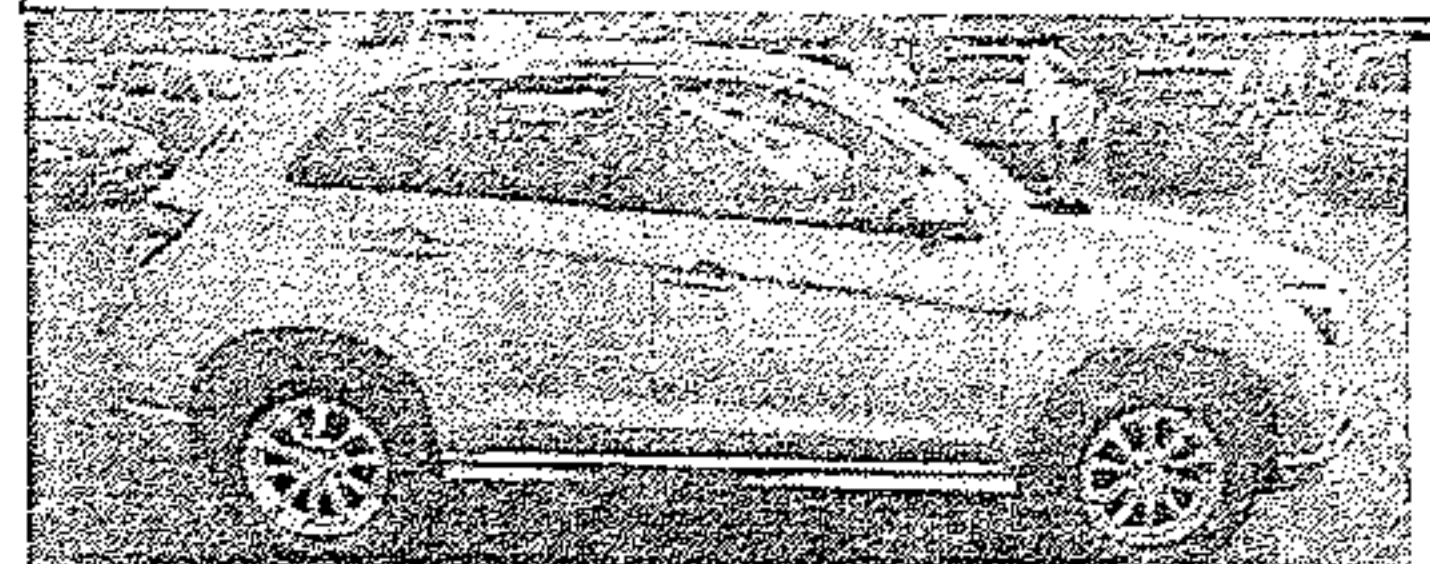
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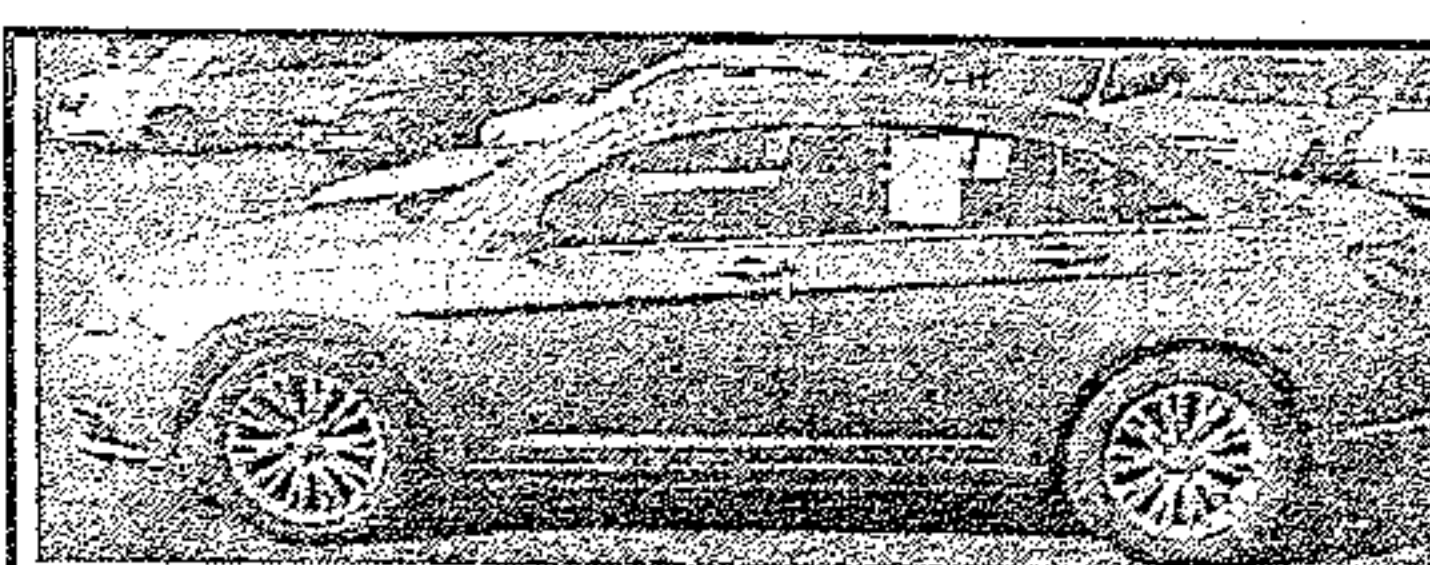
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Games ctd. from pg. 2  
 Mills started pulling away from Deputy. After a struggle Mills was cuffed and placed into the patrol vehicle. Once in the vehicle Mills started beating his head on the window. On the way to jail Mills stated to Deputy the next time he catches him on the street he is going to whip him. Randall Wells, 33, W Lee Hwy Philadelphia, was charged with Violation of Probation.

**Charged**

Jimmy Evans, 36, Del Rio Lane Lenoir City, was charged with Domestic Assault. Officer A Lee LCPD, was dispatched to Ruby Tuesdays in reference to an assault. Upon arrival Officer made contact with the complainant/witness, who advised he observed Jimmy Evans use his hat to strike the victim in the head. Witnesses stated Evans was intoxicated and began arguing with the victim after the victim

made a comment about Evans son. A employee advised Evans he needed to leave the property and Evans then threw his beer at the employee.

Witnesses stated as Evans was leaving he was yelling and cursing and then struck the victim in the face with an open hand. Jimmy Evans was located at the residence on Del Rio Lane and placed under arrest.

**Wreck**

Howard Pesterfield, 63, Reynolds Hill KY., was charged with DUI.

According to the report, Deputy A. Parton and Brandon Dishner LCSO, responded to a wreck on Town Creek Road.

Upon arrival Deputy spoke to Howard Pesterfield who stated he was the driver of the vehicle, and that he had a beer.

Pesterfield was ask to perform sobriety test which he consented.

Pesterfield did poorly on sobriety test and was placed under arrest. Once at the jail

Pesterfield agreed to breath test and blew a .73.

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**Public Notice**

The City of Philadelphia Mayor and Board of Aldermen will have the first reading of the Ordinance No. 20200113 "Purchasing Policy" for the City of Philadelphia on Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. located at the United Methodist Church of Philadelphia.

**Public Notice**

The City of Philadelphia Mayor and Board of Aldermen will meet in a regular scheduled monthly meeting on Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. located at the United Methodist Church of Philadelphia.



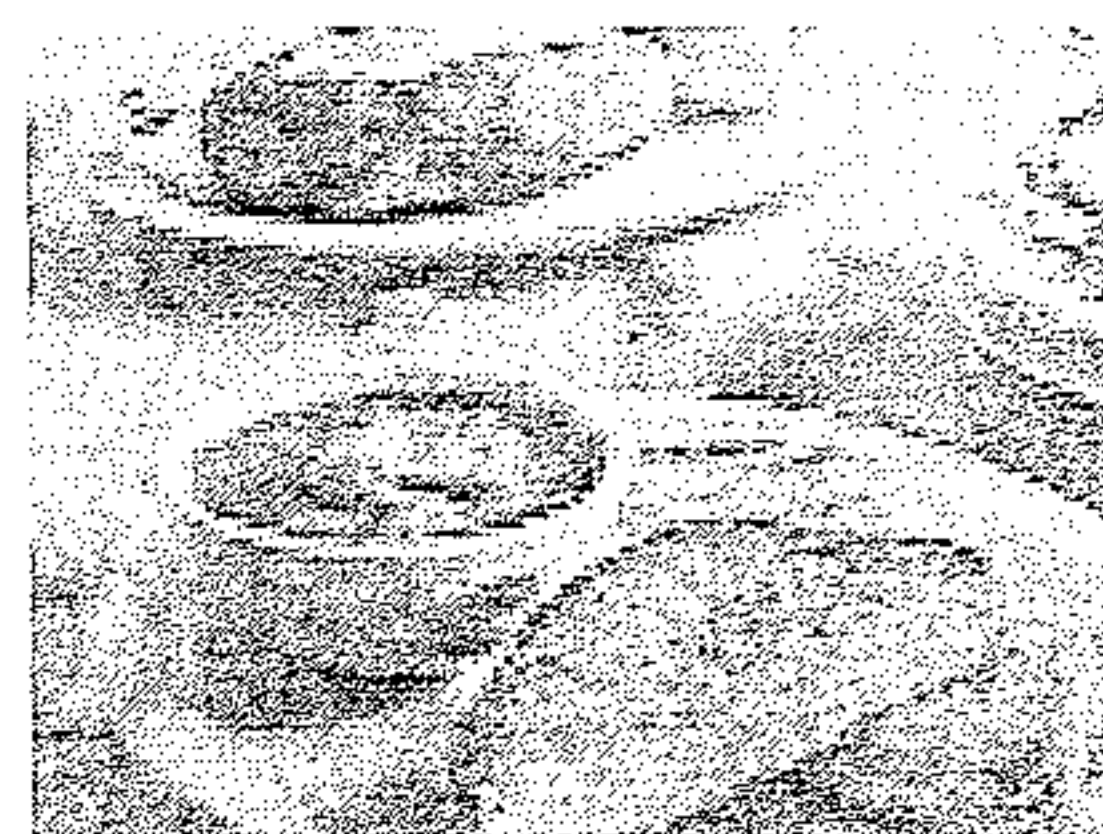
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## Fraud Ring

business email compromise (BEC) scheme. Beginning in 2013, his employees regularly called the victim companies' customer service numbers to glean as much information as they could about the companies. They asked for details like names of key employees and their contact information.

They also sent phishing emails that gave them access to the companies' email systems—giving the fraudsters an even bigger trove of information about the victim companies.

"It was a big, sophisticated research effort," said Special Agent Jonathan Polonitza, who investigated this case out of the FBI's New York Field Office.

Armed with these details and two years of research, one of the fraudsters simply called the companies pretending to be a vendor. The caller told each company to change their bank account information for an upcoming payment.

The two companies wired several payments to the fraudulent accounts, adding up to more than \$120 million.

And this is where Rimasauskas came in: He was in charge of setting up the fraudulent accounts and then immediately laundering the funds all over the world.

"Unfortunately, this is happening to a lot of companies because it's a crime that can be committed from the other side of the world."

Jonathan Polonitza, FBI New York

Luckily, the companies notified the FBI of the email intrusions. Investigators froze some of the funds before Rimasauskas and his associates could move the money. Rimasauskas had created a vast paper trail, including contracts, invoices, and other documents to try to make the transactions look legitimate.

But the FBI worked closely with partner agencies around the world to investigate Rimasauskas' operation

and bring him to the United States for prosecution. He pleaded guilty to wire fraud charges and was sentenced last December to five years in prison.

"Unfortunately, this is happening to a lot of companies because it's a crime that can be committed from the other side of the world," Polonitza said. "They also work very hard to remain anonymous."

BEC is a growing crime—with a staggering price tag. Between 2013 and 2019, the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) received complaints of more than \$10 billion in losses from the crime.

But there are things you can do to protect yourself and your business. And if you are victimized, it's critical to notify law enforcement as soon as possible. In some cases, money can be recovered.

"It's very important to be careful in opening any email attachments," Polonitza said. "If something is suspicious, alert your company's security. If you are a victim in a case like this, the sooner we know, the sooner we can help."

If you or your company is affected by business email compromise, contact law enforcement immediately and file a complaint online with the IC3 at [bec.ic3.gov](http://bec.ic3.gov).

### Britain's Knife Violence Rates Destroy Liberal Narrative On Guns

(Tea Party 247) – Thanks to the liberal powers that be, the United Kingdom has become ground zero for knife violence. In their progressive pursuit to be a safer society by banning guns they likely did not anticipate sky-rocketing rates of violent incidents involving knives instead. Add to this, the left's zealous desire to achieve diversity at all costs by bringing in droves of violent Middle Eastern and African migrants, and you've got yourself a thriving liberal dystopia.

The number of knife-related crimes that occurred in England and Wales has hit a record high, rising by seven percent over the previous year. That ought to be great for tourism.

Breitbart reports: New figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) found that in the year to September, police logged 44,771 knife crime offences. There were 617 homicides last year in England and Wales, with 40 per cent of those murders being

committed with a knife or sharp object.

Helen Ross from the Office for National Statistics Centre for Crime and Justice said: "In the last year, there has been no change in overall levels of crime, however, this hides variations in different types of crime."

"For example, there have been continued rises in fraud, vehicle offences and robbery, and decreases in burglary and homicide," adding that: "Although the number of offences involving a knife has continued to increase, there is a mixed picture across police forces".

The figures, which do not include data from Greater Manchester, due to a discrepancy in data logging, underline the scale of the knife crime epidemic currently plaguing the United Kingdom, a country with very strict gun laws.

For his part, London Mayor Sadiq Khan naturally down plays the figures and the problem, saying in a statement, "The scourge of violent crime is still rising — and faster elsewhere than here in London. The only solution is to be both tough on crime & on the causes. When will the Government finally fully reverse their cuts to the police, youth services, schools, sports facilities & councils?"

However, under Kahn's leadership, the number of child stabbing victims in London has reached an 11-year high as of November and the murder rate in the city has reached the highest it has been in a decade.

The police are doing everything within their power to crackdown on knife crimes but thanks to the mass influx of migrants, street gang activity is making this an almost impossible task.

This is what progressive liberal policies get a country. Lawmakers either ignorantly believe that the answer to ending mass violence is taking away guns or they are purposefully attempting to disarm the population to achieve total control (aka tyranny).

If criminals don't have guns, they will still find ways to hurt each other. It's completely ridiculous to believe that doing away with guns will somehow make a country safer. It's the same logic as saying since people die in car accidents we should outlaw cars. The end result is never better and the only people who end up suffering are law-abiding citizens.

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## Physician

for services provided by nurse practitioners or other non-physician providers when the services are rendered “incident-to” a physician’s services, but only if the physician provides direct supervision. TRICARE always pays the reduced rate for services rendered by non-physician providers regardless of whether a physician supervises. The government alleged that Dr. Chen’s practice unlawfully billed government payors at the physician rate even when services were rendered by unsupervised nurse practitioners.

Under the False Claims Act, any person who presents false claims for payment to the United States is liable for three times the damages the government incurs as a result of the false claims and penalties ranging from \$5,000 to \$22,363 per violation, depending on when the violations occurred.

“False billing practices contribute to the rising cost of health care in our country, and cheat taxpayers out of billions of dollars each year,” said U.S. Attorney J. Douglas Overbey. “This settlement demonstrates the continued commitment of the United States Attorney’s Office to protecting the integrity of our federal health care programs.”

“Medicare and other government health payment rules on non-physician providers are clear. While nurse practitioners may provide excellent care, billing their services at an inflated rate cheats taxpayers who are paying for these vital services,” said Derrick Jackson, Special Agent in Charge of the Office of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. “Working with our law enforcement partners, we will continue investigating threats to federally funded health care programs.”

“I applaud the Department of Justice and the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee for their continued efforts to hold health care providers accountable to the American taxpayer,” said Army Lt. Gen. Ronald Place, di-

rector of the Defense Health Agency. “The efforts of the Department of Justice to safeguard the health care benefit for our service members, veterans and their families is commendable. The Defense Health Agency continues to work closely with the Justice Department, and other state and federal agencies to investigate all those who participated in fraudulent practices.”

This investigation was a coordinated effort by the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Tennessee; the Tennessee Attorney General’s Office; the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General; and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. The investigation was prompted by a lawsuit filed in 2015 by a former

nurse practitioner at the practice, under the qui tam or “whistleblower” provisions of the False Claims Act, which permit private individuals to sue on behalf of the government for false claims and to share in any recovery. The relator’s share of the recovery in this case is \$51,300.

The case is captioned United States and State of Tennessee ex rel. Forester v. Chang-Wen Chen, M.D. and Chang-Wen Chen, M.D., P.C., Case No. 3:18-cv-51 (E.D. Tenn.).

Assistant United States Attorneys L. Margaret Harker, Jeremy S. Dykes, and Jessica Sievert represented the United States.

The claims settled by this agreement are allegations only; there has been no determination of liability.

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