



State of New Jersey

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Union County Dentist Agrees to Pay \$250,000 For Alleged Medicaid Overpayments

TRENTON – Louis Tratenberg, D.D.S., a Springfield, N.J. based dentist, has entered into a settlement with the Office of the State Comptroller, Medicaid Fraud Division (“OSC”), to pay \$250,000 to the Medicaid program to resolve allegations that he improperly billed for services.

Through its investigation, OSC determined that Tratenberg billed for behavioral management services for Medicaid beneficiaries for which he did not possess sufficient supporting documentation. OSC also found that Tratenberg billed for multiple trips to the same facility when, in fact, he saw multiple patients at the facility during a single trip. Finally, OSC found that Tratenberg billed certain claims as both fee-for-service and Managed Care Organization claims when such claims should have been billed in only one category.

As part of this settlement, Tratenberg agreed to pay the Medicaid program \$250,000 and to correct his documentation and claims submission practices in order to prevent similar re-occurrences.

“The Medicaid program will be reimbursed for claims that were improperly submitted for payment and protected going forward through the terms of the Corrective Action Plan being put in place. This settlement evidences our continued commitment to the pursuit of fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicaid program,” State Comptroller Philip James Degnan said.

MFD serves as the state’s independent watchdog for New Jersey’s various Medicaid programs and works to ensure that the state’s Medicaid dollars are being spent effectively and efficiently. As part of its oversight role, MFD audits and investigates health care providers, managed care organizations and Medicaid recipients to identify and recover improperly expended Medicaid funds and identify and redress quality of care issues affecting the health of Medicaid recipients.

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

Suspected Medicaid waste, fraud or abuse can be reported to the MFD by calling its toll-free hotline at (888) 937-2835 or by submitting a complaint form located at the following address: <http://www.state.nj.us/comptroller/divisions/medicaid/complaint.html>.

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A copy of the settlement can be viewed by clicking [here](#).