



# State of New Jersey

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTINUE LAKEWOOD MEDICAID/GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE FRAUD ARRESTS**

Ocean County Prosecutor Joseph D. Coronato and State Comptroller Philip James Degnan announced today additional ongoing arrests within Lakewood, New Jersey by the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office for defrauding Medicaid and government assistance programs. The investigations initiated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Red Bank Office and the New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller – Medicaid Fraud Division, were expanded to include the US Social Security Administration, New Jersey Department of the Treasury – Office of Criminal Investigation, and the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office – Economic Crimes Unit. The arrests made just before midnight (6/27), include charges of individuals collecting illegal benefits in the six-figure range.

OCPO detectives/prosecutors, along with its collaborating agencies, continued Monday's operation by arresting the following three married couples. Hearings are scheduled for 1:30 pm today (6/28) at Ocean County Superior Court.

- Yitzchock, 33, and Sora, 39, Kanarek of Brisk Lane - charged with 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Theft by Deception for wrongfully collecting approximately \$339,002.56 in Medicaid, SNAP, HUD, and SSI benefits between January 2009 and July 2014.
- Chaim, 40, and Liatt, 39, Ehrman of Twin Oaks Drive - charged with 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Theft by Deception for wrongfully collecting approximately \$185,692.22 in Medicaid, SNAP, HEAP, and Sandy benefits between January 2011 and December 2015
- William, 45, and Faigy, 40, Friedman of Leigh Drive – charged with 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Theft by Deception for wrongfully collecting approximately \$149,842.28 in Medicaid, SNAP, HEAP, and HUD benefits between January 2011 and December 2015.

The nature of the criminal events investigated and basic charges allege that the defendants misrepresented their income, declaring amounts that were low enough to receive the program's benefits, when in fact their income was too high to qualify. The investigations revealed that the defendants' received income from numerous sources that they failed to disclose on required program applications. As a result, they received benefits that they were not entitled to under these programs for themselves or family members. The Ocean County Prosecutors Office is prosecuting the above arrested individuals at the state level.

The investigation by all the participating agencies is continuing and additional arrests are forthcoming. OCPO and our prosecuting partners may add additional relevant charges (ie. Tax charges) as each case proceeds through the legal process. Anyone with any information is asked to contact Sergeant Mark Malinowski of the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office at (732) 929-2027.

The media and the public are reminded that criminal charges are only allegations and that each defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in court.

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