

Office of the Attorney General

Attorney General Stumbo Announces Arrest of Lexington Abortion Doctor

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Original document found online at:

<http://migration.kentucky.gov/newsroom/aag/hamidhussainsheikh.htm>

Attorney General Greg Stumbo today announced the indictment and arrest of **Dr. Hamid Hussain Sheikh**, a Lexington physician. According to the indictment, Sheikh, age 62, committed fraud by performing abortions and disguising patient visits as fetal ultrasounds for normal pregnancies, which he billed to Medicaid. (Click here for a copy of the indictment: <http://tinyurl.com/2jd4la>)

The Franklin County Grand Jury returned a sealed four count indictment on November 14, 2007. **In addition to false Medicaid billings, the indictment alleges that Sheikh was paid twice for the procedures, accepting payment from Medicaid and from his patients. According to the indictment, Sheikh has engaged in the scheme continuously since 2004.**

Stumbo credited his new program called the Fraud Investigation Support Team (FIST) with discovering the illegal abortion activities. FIST is composed of a Medicaid fraud work group trained in data claims and computer forensics to efficiently and effectively review allegations of fraud.

“Without the combined talents of the Attorney General’s staff detailed to FIST, identifying this criminal activity likely would have never occurred,” Stumbo said. “This is a new way of using technology to safeguard the public.”

The investigation began with FIST reviewing Medicaid claims data to identify Medicaid patients seen by Dr. Sheikh. FIST personnel recognized prescriptions that made up a "three drug cocktail" that would typically be prescribed after an abortion. As a result, this led the team to uncover the potential fraudulent claims.

“The investigation continues,” Stumbo said. “Additional charges are possible in view of the deplorable sanitary conditions found in Sheikh’s office.”

If convicted, Dr. Sheikh faces up to 20 years in prison under the four count felony indictment. Dr. Sheikh will be arraigned on these charges on November 30, 2007, in Franklin Circuit Court.

The indictment was sought by Attorney General Stumbo's Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Control Division after a lengthy investigation. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant Attorneys General Jennifer Wintergerst and Jesse Robbins, and Kentucky Bureau of Investigation Agent Keith Howard.

Suspected fraud can be reported by calling the Attorney General's tip line at 1-877-ABUSE TIP (1-877-228-7384).

Dr. Hamid Hussain Sheikh, 62