

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT ANCHORAGE

STATE OF ALASKA,)
)
 Plaintiff,)
)
 vs.)
)
 TUTUILA SUSIE TAPUOLO,)
 DOB: 1/29/1983)
 APSIN ID: 7282933)
 DMV NO. 7191667 AK)
 ATN: 107-504-658)
)
 Defendant.)
)

Case No. 3AN-13- CR.

INFORMATION

I certify this document and its attachments do not contain the (1) name of a victim of a sexual offense listed in AS 12.61.140 or (2) residence or business address or telephone number of a victim of or witness to any offense unless it is an address identifying the place of a crime or an address or telephone number in a transcript of a court proceeding and disclosure of the information was ordered by the court.

The following counts charge a crime involving DOMESTIC VIOLENCE as defined in AS 18.66.990:

Count I - AS 47.05.210(a)(1)Fel C
Medical Assistance Fraud
Tutuila Susie Tapuolo - 001

Count II - AS 47.05.210(a)(5) Misd A
Medical Assistance Fraud
Tutuila Susie Tapuolo - 002

THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROSECUTIONS AND APPEALS CHARGES:

Count I

That on or about the September 26, 2011 through October 8, 2011, at or near Anchorage in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, TUTUILA SUSIE TAPUOLO, knowingly submitted or authorized the submission of a claim to a medical

assistance agency for property, services, or a benefit with reckless disregard that the claimant is not entitled to the property, services, or benefit.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 47.05.210(a)(1) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

Count II

That on or about the September 26, 2011 through October 8, 2011, at or near Anchorage in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, TUTUILA SUSIE TAPUOLO, knowingly made a false entry or falsely altered a medical assistance record.

All of which is a class A misdemeanor offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 47.05.210(a)(5) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

Probable Cause

In July/August 2010, the Division of Quality Assurance at Health and Social Services received a referral for potential Public Assistance fraud based upon the fact that the recipient failed to accurately identify all of the individuals living in her home for purposes of calculating public assistance benefits. Further investigation revealed that two personal care attendants (PCA) were being paid by Medicaid in Alaska to provided services to a recipient living in Pago Pago, Samoa.

Investigator Kandi Stewart was at the time an investigator for public assistance. In December 2012, Investigator Stewart, now an investigator for the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, initiated an investigation into Medicaid provider fraud when she discovered that the above matter was never referred to the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. Investigator Stewart discovered that Tutuila Suzie Tapuolo, an enrolled Medicaid provider, submitted timesheets reflecting she provided PCA services from September 26, 2011 through October 8, 2011 for Medicaid recipient Lanuola Tanielu.

Immigration & Custom Enforcement Agency (ICE) records reflect Lanuola Tanielu was out of the country and/or State of Alaska from September 26, 2011 through November 18, 2011 and Tutuila Suzie Tapuolo was in the United States. Timesheets received from Caring Companions LLC substantiates Tutuila Suzie Tapuolo

completed, signed, and submitted timesheets alleging she provided personal care services from September 26, 2011 through October 8, 2011 for recipient Lanuola Tanielu. The timesheets submitted indicate that Tapuolo was living with Tanielu and that she provided services such as mobility assistance, bathing, dressing, toileting, personal hygiene and shopping.

On January 24, 2013, Investigator Stewart interview Tutuila Suzie Tapuolo. Tapuolo admitted that Lanuola Tanielu traveled to Pago Pago, Samoa and that she knowingly submitted timesheets to Caring Companions LLC and attempted to get paid for the dates of services she knew Lanuola Tanielu was out of the country. Tutuila Suzie Tapuolo indicated while she did attempt to bill for the services she was not actually paid by the company as the owner, Lucky Emokidi, discovered Lanuola Tanielu was out of town during time period. Investigator Stewart reviewed a Medicaid data base for Alaska and discovered that Medicaid was billed for dates of service September 26, 2011 through October 8, 2011 for in excess of 56 hours resulting in a total Medicaid loss of \$944.54.

Dated at Anchorage, Alaska, this ____ day of February, 2013.

MICHAEL C. GERAGHTY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: _____
A. Andrew Peterson
Assistant Attorney General
Alaska Bar No. 0601002

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this ____ day of
February 2013, at Anchorage, Alaska.

Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: End of Hire

