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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF FLORIDA

Florida Attorney General's Office News Release

Tallahassee Woman Arrested for Defrauding Medicaid Program



TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody today announced the arrest of Mary Elizabeth Graham, for defrauding the Florida Medicaid program. The Leon County Sheriff's Office arrested Graham following an investigation by Attorney General Moody's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit.

The MFCU investigation revealed that Graham, while working for Panhandle Therapy Center, LLC., fraudulently caused Medicaid to be billed for services not provided.

Graham is charged with one count of Medicaid provider fraud $10,000 or less, a third-degree felony.

The case will be prosecuted by the State Attorney's Office for the Second Judicial Circuit of Florida through a special designation of Wes Paxson III, an MFCU attorney.

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The Florida Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit investigates and prosecutes providers that intentionally defraud the state's Medicaid program through fraudulent billing practices. Medicaid fraud essentially steals from Florida's taxpayers. Additionally, the MFCU

investigates allegations of patient abuse, neglect, and exploitation in facilities receiving payments under the Medicaid program.

The Florida MFCU is funded through a grant totaling $29,707,695 for Federal Fiscal Year 2024, from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services-Office of Inspector General. The Federal Share of these funds is 75% totaling $22,280,772. The State Matching Share of these funds is 25% totaling $7,426,923 and is funded by Florida.