



STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU 'ĀINA O HAWAII

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GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA

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ATTORNEY GENERAL
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO SEEK
RECONSIDERATION OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES DECISION REGARDING MEDICAID FRAUD CONTROL UNIT**

News Release 2026-30

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 4, 2026

HONOLULU – The Department of the Attorney General today issued the following statement in response to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) decision regarding federal funding for Hawai'i's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit:

The Department of the Attorney General remains committed to protecting Medicaid beneficiaries, safeguarding public funds, and holding accountable those who commit fraud, abuse, or neglect.

We recognize the seriousness of the HHS's concerns and are treating this matter with the urgency it deserves. The Department has mobilized additional personnel and resources from across multiple divisions to conduct a comprehensive review of the findings, prepare a formal response, and pursue all available avenues to preserve and strengthen Hawai'i's Medicaid fraud enforcement efforts. We intend to seek reconsideration of HHS's decision and will continue working closely with our federal

partners to address concerns and demonstrate the full scope of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit's work.

While recent federal correspondence and media reports have focused heavily on criminal case numbers, they do not fully reflect the work performed by Hawai'i's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. Since 2021, the unit has secured or helped secure more than \$14 million in judgments, settlements, and recoveries, pursued civil enforcement actions, investigated allegations of provider fraud, and prosecuted cases involving the abuse and neglect of vulnerable individuals.

Medicaid fraud enforcement is not measured solely by convictions. It includes preventing fraud, recovering taxpayer dollars, protecting beneficiaries, and pursuing appropriate civil and criminal remedies based on the facts and the law.

We strongly disagree with any suggestion that Hawai'i has failed to take Medicaid fraud seriously. The Department will continue working to strengthen enforcement efforts, protect public resources, and ensure accountability for those who abuse the Medicaid program.

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