

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

STATE OF ALASKA,)
)
 Plaintiff,)
)
 vs.)
)
 ELIZABETH VALLANGCA MIRANDA,)
 DOB: 6/4/1969)
 APSIN ID: 7657295)
 DMV NO. 7411971 AK)
 ATN: 114-356-133)
)
 Defendant.)
)

Case No. 3AN-13- CR
3AN-13-459 SW

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 B
Medical Assistance Fraud
Elizabeth Vallangca Miranda - 001

Count II - AS 47.05.210(a)(5) Misd A
Medical Assistance Fraud
Elizabeth Vallangca Miranda - 002

THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROSECUTIONS AND APPEALS CHARGES:

Count I

That on or about March 11, 2012 through July 27, 2012, at or near Anchorage in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, ELIZABETH VALLANGCA MIRANDA , 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 B 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 March 11, 2012 through July 27, 2012, at or near Anchorage in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, ELIZABETH VALLANGCA MIRANDA, 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 Statement:

The undersigned swears under oath this Information is based upon a review of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) investigative report submitted to date.

The Program Integrity (PI) Unit of the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) referred an investigation to the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) involving personal care attendant (PCA) agency Good Faith Services, LLC. (Good Faith) and employees of Good Faith for suspected Medicaid fraud. During the course of the investigation, MFCU investigators began investigating Good Faith employee Elizabeth Miranda for suspected billing for Medicaid services while the Medicaid recipients Rema and Santos Vallangca were traveling outside of the United States.

PCAs are licensed and registered health care providers that the Alaska Medicaid Program pays to provide home based healthcare services which will allow Medicaid recipients to stay in their home rather than be placed in a nursing home type setting. Medicaid recipients are evaluated for their healthcare needs and a PCA is then hired by the recipient to provide those needs in the recipient's home. The PCA fills out a timesheet for the work done and submits it to a PCA agency that in turn bills Medicaid. Medicaid pays approximately \$24 an hour to the agency and the agency

must pay the PCA at least half of that amount. The MFCU initiated a medical assistance fraud investigation based on the above allegations.

On May 21, 2013, MFCU investigators learned from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agent Timothy Brady that Rema and Santos Vallangca traveled outside of the United States from May 14, 2012 through June 26, 2012. Border crossing records further revealed that Elizabeth Miranda traveled outside of the United States from May 14, 2012 through July 27, 2012. In December 2011, DHSS sent out a notice that it would no longer be approving Medicaid expenditures for services performed while traveling outside of the country due to a clarification by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that 42 CFR 431.52 prohibits such expenditures. A review of Medicaid billing records revealed that Elizabeth Miranda billed Medicaid for providing 54.5 hours per week of PCA services from May 14, 2012 through July 27, 2012, which includes over a month of time in which Miranda was out of the country without recipients Rema and Santos Vallangca.

On May 23, 2012, MFCU received a letter from Attorney Chester Gilmore representing Good Faith. The letter contained a self-report from Elizabeth Miranda dated May 17, 2012 claiming that she billed for providing PCA services to her parents Rema and Santos Vallangca from May 15, 2012 through June 25, 2012 while she and her parents were out of the country in the Philippines. Miranda provided new timesheets to the MFCU that were different from the original timesheets secured by the MFCU from Good Faith. Miranda claims on the new timesheets that she resumed providing care for Rema and Santos on June 26, 2012 in the United States, but ICE border crossing records reflect that Miranda did not return to the United States until July 27, 2012. Miranda's Employment records with Spring Day Assisted Living Home and Lakeview Homes Assisted Living both indicate that Miranda did not return to work until approximately July 28, 2012. Medicaid was billed a total of \$13,403.75 for services that were allegedly provided outside of the country in violation of Medicaid regulations and/or not provided at all due to PCA Miranda being outside of the country while her recipient parents were in Alaska.

The review of Elizabeth Miranda's PCA timesheets from March 11, 2012 through May 4, 2012 revealed that she claimed to be providing PCA services during times that she was actually working at Day Spring Assisted Living Home and Lakeview Homes Assisted Living. Day Spring Assisted Living Home owner indicated that Elizabeth Miranda worked a 48 shift each week from Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. through Friday at 8:00 p.m. Day Spring Assisted Living Home provided business records to confirm this work schedule. Lake View Homes confirmed that Elizabeth Miranda's schedule was from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. three to four days per week, normally Sunday through Wednesday. Medicaid was billed a total of \$27,133.13 for services PCA services that Elizabeth Miranda claimed to be providing her parents during times that she was actually working for Spring Assisted Living Home and/or Lake View Homes. In total, Elizabeth Miranda submitted fraudulent bills to Medicaid totaling \$40,536.88 in a period of five months.

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

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