



# Department of Justice

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Southern District of Georgia

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## **MIAMI MAN SENTENCED TO 41 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR MEDICARE FRAUD**

### *Infusion Therapy Scheme Caused Over \$8 Million in Fraudulent Medicare Claims*

SAVANNAH, GA. - JOSE GARCIA-IGLESIAS, 26, of Miami, Florida, was sentenced by Chief United States District Judge William T. Moore to federal prison on a charge of conspiracy to commit health care fraud. The charge arose out of a scheme to bill Medicare for over \$8 million in phantom infusion therapy services and high-dollar cancer and AIDS medications.

United States Attorney Ed Tarver said, "Now, more than ever, it is imperative that Medicare funds be directed towards those who need them. Medicare fraud weakens our nation's entire healthcare delivery system. This prosecution demonstrates that those who exploit and defraud the Medicare program will face long prison sentences and will be required to make restitution to the United States."

GARCIA-IGLESIAS was sentenced to 41 months in federal prison, to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. There is no parole in the federal justice system. In addition GARCIA-IGLESIAS was ordered to pay \$423,951.00 in restitution.

According to the evidence, from February through November of 2008, GARCIA-IGLESIAS conspired to bill approximately \$8 million in fraudulent infusion claims from two clinics located in South Georgia which claimed to offer infusion therapy services to Medicare beneficiaries. GARCIA-IGLESIAS, with the assistance of others, devised a scheme to defraud Medicare in which GARCIA-IGLESIAS traveled from Miami to Georgia to establish the two clinics, and used stolen Medicare beneficiary information and the stolen identity of a medical doctor to submit over \$8 million in infusion therapy claims to Medicare for medical services that were never provided.

The case was investigated by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG). United States Attorney Tarver noted that the investigation and prosecution of GARCIA-IGLESIAS is part of *Operation Redex Infuscam*, an investigation by the FBI, the HHS-OIG and the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Georgia into more than \$25 million in fraudulent Medicare claims submitted by individuals who have relocated Medicare fraud schemes from South Florida to South Georgia. To date, *Operation Redex Infuscam* has resulted in the convictions of ten (10) South Florida residents who operated seven (7) phony infusion clinics in and around South Georgia.

The case against GARCIA-IGLESIAS was prosecuted by Brian T. Rafferty, Chief of the Criminal Division for the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Georgia. For additional information, please contact First Assistant United States Attorney James D. Durham at (912) 201-2547.