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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S. CHARGES 35, INCLUDING CENTER CITY LAWYER, WITH FRAUD IN CONNECTION WITH PHONY PERSONAL INJURY CLAIMS

Charges Resulted From FBI Sting “Staged Impact”

PHILADELPHIA – U.S. Attorney Pat Meehan and FBI Special Agent-in-Charge J.P. Weis today announced the charging of 35 individuals with fraud resulting from an undercover sting operation called “Staged Impact,” which the FBI established to target individuals participating in bogus personal injury actions arising out of supposed vehicular accidents.

The 35 defendants are divided into three groups: one attorney, Jordan B. Lubber, who sought and obtained a legal settlement on behalf of two undercover FBI agents posing as injured patients from a vehicular accident, while Lubber knew that the injuries underlying the claims were fabricated or exaggerated and that the patients had received no medical treatment; 31 patients who sought recovery based on false medical diagnoses and non-existent medical treatment for supposed injuries from vehicular accidents; and three “runners” who received referral fees from Injury Associates for recruiting patients to the clinic while knowing that the clinic was a fraudulent operation.

“It was explained to these defendants up front that they were going to be part of a fraud. They were given a chance to bail out and they chose to keep going,” said Meehan. “This kind of fraud affects the bottom line for all of us. We see higher insurance rates because some choose to exploit the system. The results of this sting should serve as a warning to those with similar intentions.” According to the Insurance Information Institute, fraudulent property/casualty claims cost insurers about \$30 billion annually.

The heart of the sting operation was a fake chiropractic clinic located in Northeast Philadelphia and operated by the FBI, called “Injury Associates.” The clinic offered people who claimed to have been in either real or staged car accidents an opportunity to pursue fraudulent personal injury actions based upon fake or exaggerated injuries. To make the fraud obvious, Injury Associates made clear to anyone who wanted to use the clinic that it did not provide any medical treatment or therapy whatsoever; rather, the clinic existed merely to create paperwork that would

bolster a personal injury claim. This paperwork primarily consisted of false treatment records and false medical diagnoses.

Each individual sting operation began with an initial meeting between the patients and the “undercovers.” In some cases, the runner who referred the patients also attended. Injury Associates appeared to be an ordinary chiropractic clinic. When a patient arrived at the clinic, he/she would be greeted by a receptionist and then brought into an office for an initial meeting, at which the undercovers explained to potential patients how the fraud scheme worked.. The meetings were video and audio taped.

The undercovers first explained that the goal of Injury Associates was solely to help patients support their personal injury claims by preparing false paperwork to make it appear as if they were receiving treatment, when in fact, Injury Associates provided no treatment. If the patient wanted to proceed with a fraudulent claim, the undercovers would assign to the patient injuries designed to maximize the value of the patient’s claim. The undercovers then explained that patients should come to the clinic approximately once a week to sign in for the entire work week or more. This falsely made it look as if they received treatment on numerous days each week. Finally, the undercovers explained that Injury Associates would then use the sign in sheets to create paperwork describing the patient’s fake or exaggerated injuries and their non-existent treatment, and would submit this paperwork to the patient’s attorney to support the patient’s fraudulent claim, in the hopes of obtaining a settlement from the insurance company.

The fraudulent personal injury actions pursued by the individuals in the charged fraud resulted in over \$1.5 million in settlement demands, and over \$350,000 in insurance company payments on fraudulent claims.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorneys Louis D. Lappen and Leo R. Tsao.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS IS ATTACHED

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NAME	ADDRESS	AGE	Maximum Sentence
Jordan Luber	Cherrydale Drive Philadelphia, PA	40	210 years imprisonment
Hector Tanon	Westmoreland Street Philadelphia, PA	45	520 years imprisonment
Willard Jenkins	Diamond Street Philadelphia, PA	65	190 years imprisonment
Eric Simmons	Hicks Street Philadelphia, PA	41	80 years imprisonment
Hector Castillo Serrano	Passmore Street Philadelphia, PA	30	170 years imprisonment
Daniel Maldonado	Mutter Street Philadelphia, PA	27	170 years imprisonment
George Delgado	Marshal Street Philadelphia, PA	29	170 years imprisonment
Hiram A. Velazquez	Wishart Street Philadelphia, PA	22	170 years imprisonment
Carlisa D. Lewis	Tasker Street Philadelphia, PA	40	140 years imprisonment
Leonard H. Scull	Torresdale Avenue Philadelphia, PA	48	140 years imprisonment
Ann Marie Crummy	Darrah Street Philadelphia, PA	37	140 years imprisonment
Joseph M. Cannon, Jr.	Edmund Street Philadelphia, PA	22	60 years imprisonment
Albert Speach	Fayette Street Philadelphia, PA	37	120 years imprisonment
Roshanda Speach	Fayette Street Philadelphia, PA	31	120 years imprisonment
Richard Menefee	Bridge Street Philadelphia, PA	36	110 years imprisonment
Felicia Carter	Lindley Avenue Philadelphia, PA	35	80 years imprisonment
Carlos Bones	Westmoreland Street Philadelphia, PA	50	170 years imprisonment

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE	Maximum Sentence
Maritza Montalvo	Mebus Street Philadelphia, PA	44	170 years imprisonment
Miriam Rivera	Westmoreland Street Philadelphia, PA.	54	170 years imprisonment
Julia Thomas	Pennway Street Philadelphia, PA	47	170 years imprisonment
Elizabeth Almonte	“D” Street Philadelphia, PA	30	140 years imprisonment
Elyn Concepcion	“D” Street Philadelphia, PA	29	140 years imprisonment
Aracelys DeJesus	Westmoreland Street Phil- adelphia, PA	26	140 years imprisonment
Cheryl Jones	Sartain Street Philadelphia, PA	39	150 years imprisonment
Lonnie Jones	28 th Street Philadelphia, PA	35	150 years imprisonment
Tony Jones	28 th Street Philadelphia, PA	44	150 years imprisonment
Timika Graham	Willard Street Philadelphia, PA	31	150 years imprisonment
Melvin Gonzalez	Westmoreland Street Phil- adelphia, PA	36	160 years imprisonment
Jorge Rivera	5 th Street Philadelphia, PA	25	160 years imprisonment
Samara Ortiz	5 th Street Philadelphia, PA	26	160 years imprisonment
Tonya Brock	Hazzard St. Philadelphia, PA	40	170 years imprisonment
Pamela Chastang	Melrose Lane Willingboro, New Jersey	45	170 years imprisonment
Ana Soto	Orianna Street Philadelphia, PA	33	170 years imprisonment
Maritza Torres	4 th Street Philadelphia, PA	37	170 years imprisonment

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE	Maximum Sentence
Fatima Sidibe	Dunkerry Road Bensalem, PA	33	60 years imprisonment