

FILED

1545

JUN 27 2018

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WEST. DIST. OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)
 v.)
)
 MICHAEL CASH)
)

Criminal No. 18-169

(21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1)(E)(i)
and 846; and 18 U.S.C. §§ 1347 & 2)

INFORMATION

COUNT ONE

The United States Attorney charges:

On or about April 16, 2017, in the Western District of Pennsylvania, defendant MICHAEL CASH did knowingly, intentionally and unlawfully distribute a quantity of buprenorphine, also known as Suboxone, a Schedule III controlled substance, to an individual known by the United States Attorney as "N.F." outside the usual course of professional practice and not for a legitimate medical purpose.

In violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(E)(i), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

COUNT TWO

The United States Attorney further charges:

The allegations of Count One are herein realleged and incorporated by reference.

From in and around June 2016, and continuing thereafter to in and around March 2018, in the Western District of Pennsylvania, defendant MICHAEL CASH did knowingly, intentionally and unlawfully conspire with persons known and unknown to the United States Attorney to distribute a quantity of buprenorphine, also known as Suboxone or Subutex, a Schedule III controlled substance, contrary to the provisions of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(E)(i).

In violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846.

COUNT THREE

The United States Attorney further charges:

1. At all times material to this Indictment:

a. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, also known as CMS, was a federal agency within the United States Department of Health and Human Services, which administered the Medicare program.

b. Medicare was a health care benefit program, as defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 24(b), which provided medical assistance and related services to individuals. CMS administered the Medicaid program at the federal level.

c. SKS Associates, Inc. (SKS), was an opioid treatment practice, located at 2001 Bedford Street, Johnstown, PA 15904.

d. Defendant MICHAEL CASH was an independent contractor at SKS and a prescribing physician at SKS.

e. Defendant MICHAEL CASH was registered with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) as a practitioner authorized by the Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA) and as a DATA Waived Physician was authorized to treat up to 275 opioid addicted patients.

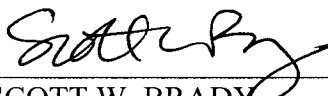
f. In order for the Medicare program to pay for buprenorphine, Subutex, Suboxone and other opioid treatment medications, a valid prescription must be filled out and signed by a DATA waived physician in the usual course of professional practice and for a legitimate medical purpose.

The Scheme to Defraud

2. From in and around June 2016, and continuing thereafter until in and around March 2018, in the Western District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, defendant MICHAEL CASH and others known and unknown to the United States Attorney perpetrated a scheme to defraud and to cause prescriptions to be paid by the Medicare program, by means of materially false and fraudulent representations, pretenses and promises, in connection with the delivery of and payment for health care services, which scheme is further described below.

3. It was part of the scheme to defraud that defendant MICHAEL CASH prepared pre-signed blank prescriptions for patients at SKS which were later completed by employees of SKS, knowing that he would not be in the office, would not examine the patients and would not complete the prescription. The presentation of these fraudulent prescriptions to pharmacies caused the Medicare program to pay for these prescriptions.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1347 and 2.



SCOTT W. BRADY
United States Attorney
PA ID No. 88352