



# Department of Justice

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## **MEDICARE FRAUD DEFENDANTS SENTENCED**

Orlando, FL - U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announces that U.S. District Judge John Antoon II has sentenced Alberto Laborde (48, Miami) to six years and nine months in federal prison for conspiring to commit health care fraud and for committing aggravated identity theft. As part of his sentence, the court also entered a money judgment in the amount of \$3,050,953.36, the proceeds of the conspiracy to commit health care fraud.

Laborde pled guilty on February 22, 2011.

According to court documents, Laborde controlled three shell companies that billed Medicare a total of \$8,383,555.48 for medical equipment that was not prescribed by a doctor and was never actually provided to a Medicare beneficiary. Based on those false claims, Medicare paid Laborde's companies a total of \$3,050,953.36. The false claims used the Medicare identification numbers of both actual Medicare beneficiaries and medical doctors.

Laborde concealed his identity by using nominee owners who purported to be the true owners of the shell companies. One of those nominee owners, Duniesky Hurtado Calzadilla (28, Miami) was also sentenced, to thirty-seven months of imprisonment for conspiracy to commit health care fraud.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, Office of Investigations. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Katherine M. Ho.