

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
for the
Eastern District of California

FILED
Oct 25, 2021
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

United States of America
v.

TRAVIS CHRISTIAN GOBER

Case No. 1:21-mj-00115-BAM

Defendant(s)

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of March 1, 2018 to September 20, 2021 in the county of Kings in the Eastern District of California, the defendant(s) violated:

Code Section 18 U.S.C. § 1347 Offense Description Health Care Fraud

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

(see attachment)

[X] Continued on the attached sheet.

[Signature]

Complainant's signature

SA Eric Panicucci, HHS-OIG

Printed name and title

Affidavit submitted by email/pdf and attested to me as true and accurate by telephone consistent with Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1 and 41(d)(3)

Date: 10/23/21

[Signature]

Judge's signature

City and state: Fresno, California

Barbara A. McAuliffe, U.S. Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title

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Acting United States Attorney  
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7 United States of America

8 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10  
11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
Plaintiff,  
12  
13 v.  
14 TRAVIS CHRISTIAN GOBER,  
Defendant.

CASE NO.  
AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF CRIMINAL  
COMPLAINT

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16 I, Eric Panicucci, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

17  
18 **I. INTRODUCTION AND AGENT BACKGROUND**

19 1. I make this affidavit in support of a criminal complaint charging TRAVIS  
20 CHRISTIAN GOBER with violation of 18, United States Code, Section 1347, health care fraud.

21 2. I am a Special Agent with the United States Department of Health and Human  
22 Services, Office of Inspector General (“HHS-OIG”) and have been since January 2019. I am a  
23 sworn federal law enforcement officer within the meaning of Rule 41(a) of the Federal Rules of  
24 Criminal Procedure. I completed the Criminal Investigator Training Program at the Federal Law  
25 Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, GA, in May 2019. Prior to Joining HHS-OIG, I worked  
26 as an investigator with the Oregon Department of Justice from June 2017 to December 2018, and  
27 as an investigator with the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office from March 2014 to May  
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1 2017. I am a Certified Fraud Examiner by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. I have  
2 Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in criminal justice from Northeastern  
3 University in Boston, Massachusetts.

4 3. The facts set forth in this Affidavit come from my personal observations, my  
5 training and experience, and information obtained from other agents and witnesses involved in  
6 this case. This Affidavit is intended to show that there is probable cause for the requested  
7 Complaint and does not set forth all my knowledge about this matter.

8 4. This case involves a large volume of Medicare claims for sleep services  
9 purportedly referred by various physicians. While I have attempted to be as precise as possible in  
10 quantifying claims submitted, amounts claimed, and amounts paid by Medicare, those figures set  
11 forth in this affidavit are approximations.

## 12 **II. PROBABLE CAUSE**

13 5. HHS-OIG and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) are investigating  
14 allegations that Travis GOBER submitted false claims to Medicare for sleep studies that  
15 GOBER’s company, VIP Sleep Center, Inc. (“VIP SLEEP”), purportedly provided to Medicare  
16 beneficiaries. Those claims were false because the sleep studies were not actually performed. For  
17 example, GOBER billed a large volume of false and fraudulent claims (1) for services VIP  
18 SLEEP falsely claimed it performed for Medicare beneficiaries who denied receiving the  
19 services, (2) for Medicare beneficiaries who were deceased on the date of service billed, (3)  
20 representing that specific physicians had referred the claims when they had not, and (4) for  
21 services purportedly performed on dates after the company ceased operations in 2018 after being  
22 evicted from its office space.

### 23 **A. Background on the Medicare Program**

24 6. The Medicare program is a federal healthcare program established by the Social  
25 Security Act of 1965 to provide medical services to aged, blind, and disabled individuals who  
26 qualify under the Social Security Act. The Medicare Part B program pays for outpatient medical  
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1 services, including certain diagnostic tests, for qualified beneficiaries. Medicare regulations  
2 require all providers to continually certify that they meet and will continue to meet the  
3 requirements of Medicare statutes and regulations. 42 C.F.R. § 423.516(a)(1).

4 7. Medicare providers file claims to obtain reimbursement for services provided to  
5 beneficiaries. Medicare requires claims to identify, among other things, the beneficiary, the  
6 services performed for the beneficiary, the dates the services were provided, the cost of the  
7 services, the name and identification number of the health care provider that referred the  
8 services, and the name and identification number of the health care provider that rendered the  
9 services. On every claim, the billing provider certifies that the information on the claim is  
10 truthful and the services were reasonable and necessary to the health of the Medicare beneficiary.  
11 Medicare only reimburses providers for services and procedures that are medically necessary.

12 8. Sleep disorder clinics are facilities in which certain conditions are diagnosed  
13 through the study of sleep. Medicare will cover reasonable and necessary diagnostic testing for  
14 sleep disorders only if the patient has symptoms or complaints such as narcolepsy, sleep apnea,  
15 impotence, or parasomnia, and only if all the following criteria are met: the clinic is either  
16 affiliated with a hospital or is under the direction and control of a physician; patients are referred  
17 to the sleep disorder clinic by their attending physician, and the clinic maintains a record of the  
18 attending physician's orders; and medical evidence such as physician examinations and  
19 laboratory tests confirms the need for diagnostic testing. Medicare Benefit Policy Manual,  
20 Chapter 15 § 70.A.

21 9. Noridian is a Medicare Administrative Contractor that is responsible for enrolling  
22 providers in Medicare and processing Medicare claims in California and other states.

23 10. Qlarant is a Medicare Unified Program Integrity Contractor that is responsible for  
24 performing fraud, waste, and abuse detection and investigation for Medicare in California and  
25 other states.

26 **B. Background on Travis GOBER and VIP SLEEP**

27 11. Travis GOBER, 42, is a resident of Hanford, California. According to the  
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1 California Department of Consumer Affairs website, GOBER has no professional licenses. Since  
2 at least March 2011, GOBER has operated and served as CEO of VIP SLEEP.

3 12. VIP SLEEP is a California corporation that was registered with the California  
4 Secretary of State on September 2, 2009. According to Medicare records, VIP SLEEP operates  
5 as “Good Night Sleep Center” and “Good Night Sleep Center of Fresno”. VIP SLEEP has billed  
6 a high volume of sleep studies to Medicare over several years.

7 13. According to Medicare records, VIP SLEEP has been a Medicare provider since  
8 May 6, 2012. Medicare claims data accessed on October 18, 2021 indicate Medicare paid VIP  
9 Sleep a total of \$4,056,029.56 for services purportedly rendered to 863 beneficiaries since  
10 January 1, 2015. VIP Sleep most recently submitted claims to Medicare on September 27, 2021.

11 14. According to the California Secretary of State website, VIP SLEEP’s business  
12 address is 7055 N. Maple Ave., Ste. 105, Fresno, CA 93720. According to Medicare records,  
13 VIP Sleep’s practice address is 7055 N. Maple Ave., STE. 105, Fresno, CA 93720 and its  
14 mailing address is 4118 S. Demaree St., Visalia, CA 93277. According to the CMS NPI  
15 Registry, VIP Sleep’s practice address is 2055 W. Claridge Way, Hanford, CA 93230. The  
16 California Secretary of State website lists the status of VIP SLEEP as “[FRANCHISE TAX  
17 BOARD] Suspended.” Typically, an entity becomes “FTB Suspended” when it fails to comply  
18 with state tax law, including by failing to file returns on time or failing to pay taxes due.

19 15. Medicare and California Secretary of State records list GOBER as VIP SLEEP’s  
20 CEO. Those records also list J.M. as VIP SLEEP’s Chief Financial Officer. They also list J.R. as  
21 VIP SLEEP’s Secretary (Secretary of State Records) or Chief Operating Officer (Medicare  
22 Records). However, financial records indicate J.R. and J.M dissociated from VIP SLEEP around  
23 October 9, 2015 and May 14, 2016, respectively. They were removed from the signature cards  
24 for the company’s bank accounts, and the company did not make significant payments to them  
25 after those dates. J.R. confirmed his split with VIP SLEEP several years prior in a 2021  
26 interview with Qlarant. J.M. did the same in a recent interview with investigators.

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1           **C.     Referral to HHS-OIG**

2           16.     On May 17, 2021, Qlarant contacted HHS-OIG following the conclusion of its  
3 own investigation into VIP SLEEP for the period of May 10, 2018 through May 10, 2021. That  
4 investigation included data analysis, Medicare beneficiary interviews, multiple unsuccessful  
5 attempts to contact and request records from VIP SLEEP, and an interview with J.R. In the  
6 referral, Qlarant alleged that VIP SLEEP billed Medicare for services it did not render. Qlarant  
7 provided the following information:

8                   a)     Between January 2019 and April 29, 2021, Medicare received 59  
9 complaints alleging that VIP SLEEP billed Medicare for services not rendered.

10                   b)     Qlarant personnel generated a “Deceased Beneficiary Report” for the  
11 period of January 1, 2015 through May 6, 2021 and determined that VIP SLEEP billed  
12 Medicare for services rendered to 19 Medicare beneficiaries who were deceased on the  
13 dates they supposedly received sleep studies at VIP SLEEP. Qlarant determined that VIP  
14 SLEEP submitted 71 claims for services rendered to deceased beneficiaries, with a total  
15 billed amount of \$450,000. Medicare rejected all the claims.

16                   c)     Qlarant personnel conducted interviews of three Medicare beneficiaries  
17 for whom VIP SLEEP had billed for sleep studies purportedly performed on four  
18 different dates of service in 2020. According to the beneficiaries, none of them received  
19 sleep studies in 2020. Each had received one sleep study from VIP SLEEP, but two of  
20 them received the study over a decade ago, and the remaining beneficiary received the  
21 study four or five years ago.

22           17.     Qlarant made multiple unsuccessful attempts to contact VIP SLEEP by mail and  
23 telephone, as follows:

24                   a)     On October 28, 2020, and February 22, 2021, Qlarant sent mail to VIP  
25 SLEEP at 7055 N. Maple Ave., Suite 105, Fresno, CA 93720, the practice location  
26 registered with Medicare. The packages were returned due to a wrong address.

27                   b)     On March 2, 2021, Qlarant sent a medical records request to VIP SLEEP  
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1 at 4118 S. Demaree St., Visalia, CA 93277, a correspondence address registered with  
 2 Medicare. The Qlarant investigator was informed that the recipient refused delivery.

3 c) On March 2, 2021, Qlarant sent a medical records request to VIP SLEEP  
 4 at 2055 W. Claridge Way, Hanford, CA, 93230, a historical correspondence address  
 5 registered with Medicare. The request was delivered, but Qlarant did not receive a  
 6 response to the request.

7 **D. HHS-OIG Interviews of Medicare Beneficiaries**

8 18. Between May 25, 2021, and June 1, 2021, HHS-OIG agents interviewed six  
 9 Medicare beneficiaries for whom VIP SLEEP billed for services. All six Medicare beneficiaries  
 10 reported that VIP SLEEP billed for services they did not receive. The table below summarizes  
 11 the beneficiary interviews and provides details regarding the claims VIP SLEEP billed for those  
 12 beneficiaries.

Beneficiary	Summary of Claims Submitted by VIP Sleep and Beneficiary Statement
B.O.	<p>VIP SLEEP billed claims for services purportedly provided to B.O. on 13 dates between February 2, 2016 and June 22, 2019, totaling \$46,800.</p> <p>B.O. stated he received statements from Medicare showing that VIP SLEEP billed for services he did not receive and contacted Medicare to report suspected fraud. B.O. did receive one sleep study around 2014 but could not recall the name of the sleep center. B.O. confirmed he did not receive 13 sleep studies through VIP SLEEP between February 2, 2016 and June 22, 2019.</p>
J.C.	<p>VIP SLEEP billed claims for services purportedly provided to J.C. on 11 dates between January 8, 2016, and December 18, 2018, totaling \$39,600.00.</p> <p>J.C. stated she received statements from Medicare showing that VIP SLEEP billed for services she did not receive and contacted Medicare to report suspected fraud. J.C. had one sleep study in 2014. J.C. confirmed she did not receive 11 sleep studies through VIP SLEEP between January 8, 2016 and December 18, 2018.</p>

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<p>1 L.N.</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p>	<p>VIP SLEEP billed claims for services purportedly provided to L.N. on 8 dates between May 9, 2018 and June 25, 2019 totaling \$28,800.00.</p> <p>L.N. stated she received statements from Medicare showing that VIP SLEEP billed for services she did not receive and contacted Medicare to report suspected fraud. L.N. had one sleep study in approximately 2014 at her former home in San Luis Obispo, CA. The sleep study was performed by a technician from Good Night Sleep Center in Atascadero, CA. L.N. confirmed she did not receive eight sleep studies through VIP SLEEP between May 9, 2018 and June 5, 2019. L.N. did not live in California during this period.</p>
<p>8 S.K.</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p>	<p>VIP SLEEP billed claims for services purportedly provided to S.K. on 9 dates between June 1, 2016 and July 26, 2019 totaling \$32,400.00.</p> <p>S.K. stated she had a sleep study at VIP SLEEP in January 2015. After receiving statements from Medicare showing VIP SLEEP billed for services she did not receive, S.K. contacted Medicare and a local police department to report suspected fraud. S.K. confirmed she did not participate in 9 sleep studies through VIP SLEEP between June 1, 2016 and July 26, 2019.</p>
<p>13 L.K.</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p>	<p>VIP SLEEP billed claims for services purportedly provided to L.K. on 13 dates between June 1, 2016 and January 29, 2020, totaling \$46,800.00.</p> <p>L.K. had one sleep study performed through Adventist Health approximately 8 or 9 years ago. L.K. confirmed he did not participate in 13 sleep studies through VIP SLEEP between June 1, 2016 and January 29, 2020.</p>
<p>17 S.L.</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p>	<p>VIP SLEEP billed claims for services purportedly provided to S.L. on 10 dates between March 20, 2018 and June 25, 2019, totaling \$36,000.00.</p> <p>S.L. received a statement that showed that VIP SLEEP billed for services she did not receive and contacted Medicare to report suspected fraud. S.L. has received several sleep studies. S.L. could not recall the names of the providers that conducted the sleep studies, but VIP SLEEP did not sound familiar to her. S.L. confirmed she definitely did not have 10 sleep studies between March 20, 2018 and June 25, 2019.</p>

23 **E. Interviews of Referring Physicians Identified On Claims Billed by VIP**  
**SLEEP**

24 19. Medicare only covers sleep studies when patients are referred to the sleep disorder  
25 clinic by their attending physicians. In order to obtain payment from Medicare, sleep disorder  
26 clinics must identify the physician who referred the patient to the sleep disorder clinic on claims  
27 submitted to Medicare. Based on information obtained from Medicare billing data, agents  
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1 interviewed physicians whom VIP Sleep identified as referring providers on claims billed to  
2 Medicare and determined that, in many instances, the physicians did not refer the beneficiaries to  
3 VIP SLEEP.

4 20. VIP SLEEP identified Dr. A.R. as the referring provider on 231 claims billed to  
5 Medicare for services provided between February 7, 2018 and October 9, 2019, totaling  
6 \$831,600.00 billed and \$105,381.54 paid. During an interview with agents on June 24, 2021,  
7 A.R. reported he has never referred a patient to VIP SLEEP. A.R. reviewed a list of services  
8 billed to Medicare where VIP SLEEP identified him as the referring provider. After searching  
9 his files, A.R. advised that, for the vast majority of services, he did not order a sleep study for the  
10 patient or receive a report from any sleep lab. In the few cases where A.R. did order a sleep study  
11 for the patient, he received a report from another sleep center, V.R.S.D.C., not VIP SLEEP.  
12 V.R.S.D.C. was a sleep disorder clinic owned by J.G., GOBER's brother. A.R. explained to  
13 agents that he stopped referring patients to V.R.S.D.C. in approximately 2017 or 2018 after he  
14 began to suspect J.G. was committing fraud by billing for services not rendered.

15 21. VIP SLEEP identified Dr. H.R. as the referring provider on 2,338 claims billed to  
16 Medicare for services provided between January 6, 2015 and July 27, 2020, totaling  
17 \$8,445,960.00 billed and \$1,406,478.46 paid. During an interview with agents on September 2,  
18 2021, H.R. reported that he stopped referring patients to VIP Sleep in March or April 2016.  
19 Analysis of Medicare claims data revealed that VIP SLEEP identified H.R. as the referring  
20 provider on 1,155 claims billed to Medicare for dates of service on or after May 1, 2016, totaling  
21 \$4,158,000.00 billed and \$523,083.60 paid.<sup>1</sup>

22 22. VIP Sleep identified Dr. Y.C. on 1,238 claims billed to Medicare for services  
23 provided between January 6, 2015 and July 29, 2020, totaling \$4,489,200.00 billed and

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24 <sup>1</sup> Between approximately March 2011 and April 2016, VIP SLEEP and H.R. had a  
25 contractual arrangement whereby VIP SLEEP operated out of office space owned by H.R. and  
26 performed sleep studies on patients H.R. referred. H.R. billed Medicare for the sleep studies VIP  
27 SLEEP performed and, in turn, paid VIP SLEEP a set rate per patient per night. In April, 2016,  
28 VIP SLEEP sued H.R., alleging that H.R. improperly locked VIP SLEEP out of the office space  
after a dispute between the parties, preventing VIP SLEEP from performing sleep studies. The  
parties resolved the matter in November 17, with H.R. paying \$8,000.00 to GOBER.

1 \$581,896.11 paid. During an interview with agents on September 17, 2021, Y.C. reported that he  
2 stopped referring patients to VIP SLEEP in 2017. Analysis of Medicare claims data revealed that  
3 VIP SLEEP identified Y.C. as the referring provider on 551 claims billed to Medicare for dates  
4 of service on or after January 1, 2018, totaling \$1,983,600.00 billed and \$242,325.57 paid.  
5 Additionally, Y.C. reviewed medical files for 14 patients for whom VIP Sleep billed Medicare  
6 and that identified Y.C. as the referring provider. Based on information provided by Y.C.,  
7 investigators determined VIP Sleep falsely identified Y.C. as the referring provider for these 14  
8 patients on 153 occasions, totaling \$583,200.00 billed and \$73,072.82 paid. In total, investigators  
9 estimate VIP Sleep falsely identified Y.C. as the referring provider on 658 claims totaling  
10 approximately \$2,401,200.00 billed and \$295,211.89 paid.

11 **F. Claims VIP SLEEP Billed After Ceasing Operations**

12 23. Information developed through multiple sources indicates VIP SLEEP billed  
13 Medicare for services provided after it ceased operations in early 2018 at the latest.

14 24. According to Medicare records, on December 5, 2016 and January 10, 2017, a  
15 Medicare program integrity contractor conducted a site verification at 7055 Maple Avenue, Suite  
16 105, Fresno, CA 93720, which VIP SLEEP identified as its primary practice address on its  
17 Medicare enrollment paperwork. The contract investigators found that VIP SLEEP no longer  
18 occupied the suite, which was empty. Information provided by the property management  
19 company for 7055 Maple Avenue confirmed that VIP SLEEP vacated the suite around the Fall  
20 2015.

21 25. On May 27, 2017, a Medicare program integrity contractor conducted a telephone  
22 interview with GOBER. GOBER confirmed that he was the “CEO/manager” of Good Night  
23 Sleep Center, which is VIP SLEEP’s dba name. He informed the investigator that VIP SLEEP  
24 relocated to 4118 S. Demaree Street, Visalia, CA 93277, and intended to open another location at  
25 2601 N. 11th Ave., Suite 2019, Hanford, CA 93230. Information provided by the property  
26 management company for 4118 S. Demaree Street confirms that VIP SLEEP was evicted from  
27 the suite on February 21, 2018.

1           26. Medicare’s current address of records for VIP SLEEP is 2055 Claridge Way,  
2 Hanford, CA 92330. On June 2, 2021, investigators conducted surveillance at that address and  
3 determined that 2055 Claridge Way is a private residence and not a sleep disorder center.

4           27. On April 28, 2021, a Qlarant investigator interviewed J. R., who stated that he cut  
5 all ties with VIP SLEEP several years prior and believes VIP SLEEP has been out of business  
6 for about five years. J. R. recommended contacting GOBER for additional information but did  
7 not have contact information for him.

8           28. Publicly-available information obtained from opencorporates.com, an online  
9 database of corporate information, indicates that the California Secretary of State suspended VIP  
10 SLEEP’s registration on March 1, 2018. According to the California Franchise Tax Board, when  
11 a business has been suspended, it is not in good standing and loses its rights, powers, and  
12 privileges to do business in California.

13           29. Analysis of Medicare claims indicates VIP SLEEP billed Medicare services  
14 totaling \$9,698,400.00 for dates of service since March 1, 2018—which was after VIP SLEEP’s  
15 eviction from the Demaree Street location and after the company’s Franchise-Tax-Board  
16 suspension— and received payment totaling \$1,170,708.32.

17           **G. Financial Investigation**

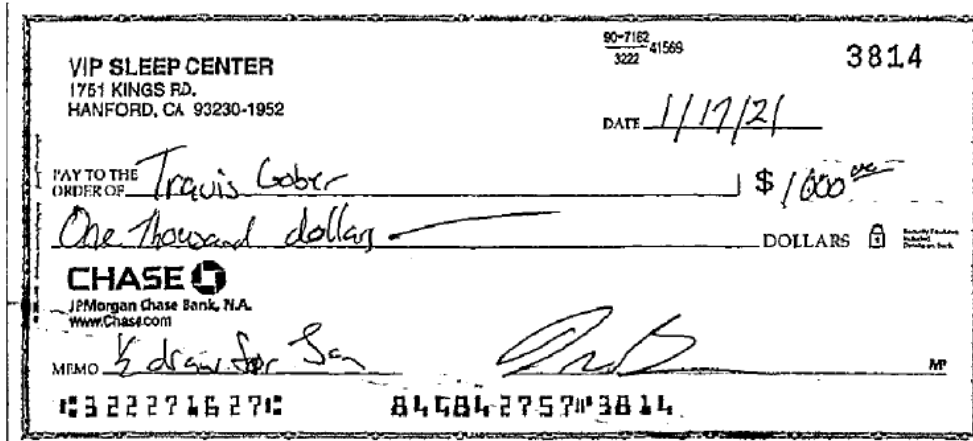
18           30. According to information provided by Qlarant, VIP SLEEP receives Medicare  
19 payments pursuant to an Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization Agreement the company filed  
20 with Medicare. Pursuant to this agreement, Medicare paid claims to VIP SLEEP by  
21 electronically transferring funds to JP Morgan Chase Bank, account number XXXXX2757  
22 (“Account 2757”).

23           31. Documents produced by JP Morgan Chase indicate Account 2757 is registered to  
24 VIP SLEEP. J.M. and J.R. opened the account on behalf of VIP SLEEP on October 28, 2009. On  
25 October 9, 2015, GOBER was added to the account as a signatory and J.R. was removed. On  
26 May 13, 2016, J.M. was removed from the account. GOBER has been the only individual with  
27 access to Account 2757 since May 13, 2016.

32. While financial analysts have not yet completed a comprehensive analysis of Account 2757, I have reviewed a sampling of those records for recent years and made the following observations:

a) Since December 2, 2013, Medicare contractor Noridian made 613 electronic funds transfers to Account 2757 totaling over \$4 million. Since May 13, 2016 (the period during which GOBER controlled the account) Noridian made 277 electronic funds transfers to Account 2757 totaling over \$2.6 million.

b) Since May 13, 2016, Account 2757 has made frequent electronic transfers to GOBER via applications such as Chase QuickPay and Zelle. During this period, GOBER received 300 electronic funds transfers totaling over \$939,000.00. In addition to electronic funds transfers, account records show frequent checks written to GOBER. An example of a recent check written to GOBER is below. The address on the check is a single-family home in a residential neighborhood, not an office suite or business location.



**D** The security features listed below, as well as those not listed, prevent forgery and alteration.  
Security Features:  
• Watermark  
• Security Thread  
• Microprint  
• Color Shifting Ink  
• Security Glitter  
• Security Hologram  
• Security Paper  
• Security Features of document attention:  
• All security features are present and legible.  
• All security features are in the correct position.  
• All security features are in the correct color.  
• All security features are in the correct size.  
• All security features are in the correct shape.  
• All security features are in the correct orientation.  
• All security features are in the correct location.  
• All security features are in the correct condition.  
• All security features are in the correct state.  
• All security features are in the correct form.  
• All security features are in the correct manner.  
• All security features are in the correct way.  
• All security features are in the correct place.  
• All security features are in the correct time.  
• All security features are in the correct order.  
• All security features are in the correct sequence.  
• All security features are in the correct pattern.  
• All security features are in the correct design.  
• All security features are in the correct style.  
• All security features are in the correct font.  
• All security features are in the correct size.  
• All security features are in the correct color.  
• All security features are in the correct shape.  
• All security features are in the correct orientation.  
• All security features are in the correct location.  
• All security features are in the correct condition.  
• All security features are in the correct state.  
• All security features are in the correct form.  
• All security features are in the correct manner.  
• All security features are in the correct way.  
• All security features are in the correct place.  
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1 c) Account 2757 shows substantial payments for personal expenses, such as  
2 transactions at Target, Wal-Mart, Amazon, Tachi Palace (casino), and Twitch (video  
3 game streaming application). Account 2757 also shows significant disbursements to  
4 GOBER's relatives.

5 d) Account 2757 is frequently overdrawn. Since February 3, 2014, the  
6 account incurred insufficient funds fees on 416 occasions totaling over \$14,000.00

7 e) Leading up to February 2018—the month VIP SLEEP was evicted from  
8 the Demaree St. office—, Account 2757 issued monthly checks marked “payroll” to  
9 various individuals. From February 2018 on, those checks generally stopped. Moreover,  
10 account activity since at least January 2019 does not show transactions typical of a  
11 healthcare business, such as employee payroll, rent, or payments for medical supplies.

12 **H. Additional Probable Cause that GOBER continues to operate VIP SLEEP**  
13 **and is continuing to submit claims on VIP SLEEP's behalf.**

14 33. GOBER lives at 1974 W. Hampton Drive, Hanford, CA 93230 (the “GOBER  
15 RESIDENCE”). In response to a subpoena issued on June 25, 2021, Comcast produced records  
16 confirming IP Address 73.116.66.120 (the “GOBER RESIDENCE IP ADDRESS”) was assigned  
17 to GOBER since at least January 25, 2021, and the service address for the associated high-speed  
18 internet account was the GOBER RESIDENCE. Comcast was unable to conclusively determine  
19 to whom the GOBER RESIDENCE IP ADDRESS was assigned before that date.

20 34. GOBER used software from Kareo to bill VIP SLEEP claims to Medicare. Kareo  
21 is a company based in Irvine, CA that markets billing and practice management software to  
22 health care providers. Health care providers can use Kareo's billing module to submit electronic  
23 claims for payment to Medicare. According to documents provided by Kareo, VIP SLEEP has  
24 subscribed to Kareo's billing module since September 2012. Records produced by Kareo  
25 indicate VIP SLEEP's billing account was accessed from the GOBER RESIDENCE IP  
26 ADDRESS on 84 occasions between August 7, 2020 and June 10, 2021. Because the GOBER  
27 RESIDENCE IP ADDRESS is linked to the GOBER RESIDENCE, this indicates that GOBER  
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1 is submitting Medicare claims for VIP SLEEP from his home.

2           35. In addition to accessing Kareo software from the GOBER RESIDENCE, GOBER  
3 is also accessing VIP SLEEP's email account from the GOBER RESIDENCE. According to  
4 Medicare enrollment records, vip.sleep@yahoo.com ("the Yahoo Account") is an email address  
5 associated with VIP SLEEP. Documents produced by Oath Holding, the parent company of  
6 Yahoo, show the Yahoo Account being accessed from the GOBER RESIDENCE IP ADDRESS  
7 on 625 occasions between August 8, 2020 and May 22, 2021. Because the GOBER  
8 RESIDENCE IP ADDRESS is linked to the GOBER RESIDENCE, this indicates that GOBER  
9 is accessing VIP SLEEP's email address from his home.

10           36. In addition to accessing VIP SLEEP's emails and submitting claims to Medicare  
11 from the GOBER RESIDENCE, GOBER is also accessing Account 2757 from the GOBER  
12 RESIDENCE. As recently as May 28, 2021, JP Morgan Chase Bank sent statements for Account  
13 2757 to the GOBER RESIDENCE. Online banking and IP address information produced by JP  
14 Morgan Chase Bank indicates Account 2757 is associated with the online banking user account  
15 "1vipsleep". IP address records indicate this user account was accessed from the GOBER  
16 RESIDENCE IP ADDRESS on 137 occasions between August 11, 2020 and May 12, 2021.  
17 Because the GOBER RESIDENCE IP ADDRESS is linked to the GOBER RESIDENCE, this  
18 indicates GOBER is accessing VIP SLEEP's checking account from his home.

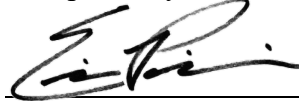
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III. CONCLUSION

37. Based on the foregoing, there is probable cause to believe that TRAVIS GOBER committed health care fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1347.

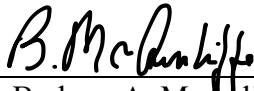
Respectfully submitted,



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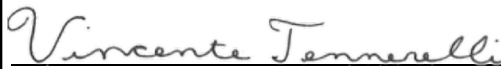
Eric Panicucci  
Special Agent  
United States Department of Health and  
Human Services, Office of Inspector General

Affidavit submitted by email and pdf and attested to me as true and accurate by telephone consistent with Fed. R. Crim P. 4(d) and 4.1 before me this 23 day of October, 2021:



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Hon. Barbara A. McAuliffe  
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE



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Approved as to form by AUSA Vincente A. Tennerelli