

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG STRANGE ANNOUNCES INDICTMENT OF COFFEE COUNTY COUNSELOR FOR MEDICAID FRAUD

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Luther Strange announced the arrest of Gwendolyn Lajonda Robinson, 36, of Enterprise, for filing false claims with the Alabama Medicaid Agency and theft of property in the first degree. Robinson surrendered at the Montgomery County Detention Facility today and was released on a \$10,000 bond.

The Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit presented evidence to a Montgomery County grand jury resulting in an indictment* dated July 17 charging Robinson with causing numerous false claims to be filed with the Alabama Medicaid Agency. The fraudulent claims caused more than \$40,000 to be paid for services never rendered. It is alleged that Robinson, who was working for Turning Point Counseling as associated licensed counselor, submitted falsified records in order to be compensated. The owners of Turning Point in turn billed the Alabama Medicaid Agency. Robinson fabricated treatment records in order to cover her fraud, sometimes placing herself in two or three places at once. Management from Turning Point was unaware of the scheme and cooperated fully with the investigation.

Medicaid Fraud is an unclassified felony with a maximum possible prison sentence of five years. Theft of property in the first degree is a class "B" felony, which carries a possible prison sentence of two to 20 years in the Department of Corrections.

Attorney General Strange commended his Medicaid Fraud Control Unit for its steadfast investigation of this case, as well as the Alabama Medicaid Agency's Program Integrity Unit, who referred the case for investigation and prosecution, and Turning Point Counseling Service for its assistance in the investigation.

**An indictment is merely an accusation. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.*

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