

### **NEWS... TRENDS... INSIGHTS...**

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

MEDICARE/MEDICAID

# Five individuals charged for over \$20M healthcare fraud, money laundering, and kickbacks scheme

September 13, 2023, New York, NY -- Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and Naomi Gruchacz, the Special Agent in Charge of the New York Office of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General ("HHS-OIG"), announced the unsealing today of a Superseding Indictment charging acupuncturists ...

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#### **CONTRACTOR FRAUD**

## Contractor arrested again, charged with grand larceny and fraud in home renovation scam

**September 14, 2023, Saratoga County, NY** -- Dakota Smith, the 28-year-old contractor who turned himself in to Mechanicville Police on Saturday, was

Smith surrendered himself to SP Clifton Park, where he was arrested, processed and released ...

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#### **INSIDER INSURER**

# UPDATE: Vesttoo identifies two co-founders & capital sourcing execs as fraud participants

September 7, 2023, New York, NY -- The investigation and audit undertaken within beleaguered insurtech Vesttoo by its board, with the help of Kroll, has now filed an initial report, saying that co-founders Yaniv Bertele and Alon Lifshitz were complicit in the fraud, as well as two execs connected to the network that found capital for the company ...

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#### **INSIDER AGENT**

### New York lawyer pleads guilty to Ponzi scheme, insurance fraud

September 18, 2023, Forest Hills, NY -- A disbarred Forest Hills, New York, attorney on Monday pleaded guilty to federal charges stemming from his roles in an \$18.8 million Ponzi scheme and a \$30 million auto insurance fraud, prosecutors said. Robert Wisnicki, 44, pleaded to guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering, both carrying a maximum sentence of five years in prison ...

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#### **PUBLIC AWARENESS**

September 18, 2023, Edison, NJ -- Two pharmacy executives and a pharmacist were arraigned today on charges of defrauding Medicare and TRICARE by submitting fraudulent claims for medically unnecessary prescriptions, Attorney for the United States Vikas Khanna announced. The pharmacy executives are also charged with paying and conspiring to pay illegal kickbacks ...

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#### **WORKERS COMP**

# DA Bragg announces sentencing, \$400K restitution for payroll insurance fraud scheme

September 19, 2023, New York, NY -- Manhattan District Attorney Alvin L. Bragg, Jr. today announced the sentencing of JUAN ESCOBAR, 46, to six months in jail for defrauding the New York State Insurance Fund ("NYSIF") of nearly \$3 million in insurance premium payments. ESCOBAR, who previously pleaded guilty to Insurance Fraud in the Third Degree, will also have to pay \$400,000 in restitution to New York State ...

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#### **PUBLIC AWARENESS**

# Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check, LLP Reminds Syneos Health, Inc. face class action lawsuit over alleged fraud

September 19, 2023, Randor, PA -- The law firm of Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check, LLP (www.ktmc.com) informs investors that a securities class action lawsuit has been filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York against Syneos Health, Inc. ("Syneos") (NASDAQ: SYNH). The action charges Syneos with violations of the federal securities



### About

FraudNY Update is compiled by the New York Alliance Against Insurance Fraud as a free service to the fraudfighting community.

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