



Department of Justice

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MAN POSING AS CHIROPRACTOR SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON

Atlanta, GA - WILLIAM WALKER, 50, of Decatur, Georgia, was sentenced today by U.S. District Court Judge Timothy C. Batten, Sr. on charges of health care fraud. WALKER, who was not a licensed chiropractor, posed as one from 2002 into 2006, performing services for patients and fraudulently billing insurance companies for over \$600,000. He pleaded guilty to the health care fraud scheme on June 19, 2006.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said of the case, "Walker cheated his patients and defrauded the health insurance system by pretending to be a licensed chiropractor for years. Fraudsters like Walker contribute to escalating health care costs for all of us. This sentence shows that this conduct can land you in federal prison."

According to United States Attorney Nahmias, the charges and other information presented in court: WALKER owned and operated the "Candler Parkway Chiropractic Clinic" in Decatur, Georgia, since approximately 1995. Because WALKER is not and has never been a licensed chiropractor in Georgia, he initially hired chiropractors to work at the clinic and provide services to patients. However, beginning in or about September 2002, into January 2006, WALKER no longer hired any chiropractors, and instead performed all the chiropractic services himself. He also billed his patients' insurance companies for these services. To mislead the insurers into believing that he was a licensed chiropractor, and therefore eligible to receive payment, WALKER fraudulently submitted the bills under the name of one of his former chiropractor employees. WALKER did that without the knowledge or consent of the chiropractor whose name he used. In total, WALKER fraudulently billed various insurance companies for over \$600,000, and he had actually received over \$400,000 by the time his scheme was identified. WALKER was indicted on June 9, 2006.

WALKER was sentenced to 2 years, 6 months in prison, to be followed by 2 years of supervised release, and ordered to repay a total of \$495,355 in restitution to the health insurance companies that he defrauded.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorneys Justin S. Anand and Jon-Peter Kelly prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.