



Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

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Chadron Mental Health Provider Liable for Medicaid Fraud

LINCOLN - Attorney General Jon Bruning today announced a \$1.3 million judgment was entered in Nebraska's favor against Healing Plains Mental Health and its owner, Jennie Miller, of Chadron. Miller received payment for nearly \$47,000 in Medicaid services never rendered and more than \$430,000 in services without substantiating documentation. Pursuant to statute, the court ordered the civil damage award to be tripled.

"Stealing from Medicaid is stealing from Nebraskans," said Bruning. "Providers who abuse the system will be held accountable."

In September 2012, Miller pleaded no contest to one count of fraudulently obtaining payment on behalf of a recipient of medical assistance, a Class IV felony. She was sentenced to 12 months of probation and ordered to pay prosecution costs.

In cooperation with the Nebraska Legislature, Attorney General Bruning established the Medicaid Fraud Unit in 2004. Since its beginning, the Unit has recovered more than \$60 million from violating service providers and drug companies. When the Unit was established, Bruning promised the Legislature it would be self-funding in three years. The annual recoveries surpassed its

operating budget starting in 2006, a year ahead of schedule.

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