



WHISTLEBLOWER WIN: \$417 MILLION SECURED IN FALSE CLAIMS ACT CASE

Setting a Strong Precedent- The landmark decision against Capstone Medical Resources, LLC, and Dr. Sharon Waltz serves as a powerful deterrent to future fraud.

Montgomery, AL (May 15, 2025) – Our whistleblower team, led by Leon Hampton, has secured a \$417 million judgment in a qui tam case presided over by Judge Madeline Haikala in the Northern District of Alabama.

Nancy D'Anna and Valerie Paige Zeiger, acting as qui tam relators, filed a motion seeking damages from Capstone Medical Resources, LLC, and Dr. Sharon Waltz. They alleged that the defendants violated the FCA by submitting 29,511 false claims to the government, resulting in a loss of \$2,116,538.42. When tripled, this loss amounted to \$6,349,615.26.

Dr. Waltz operated Capstone Medical Resources in various locations around Alabama, with its primary office in Birmingham. Among other services, Waltz provided individual and group counseling sessions for at-risk youth. The charge against her states that many of the services billed to the Alabama Medicaid Agency were never performed.

The False Claims Act (FCA), a federal law designed to combat fraud against governmental programs, imposes severe penalties on violators, including civil penalties ranging from \$13,946 to \$27,894 per false claim, plus three times the amount of damages incurred by the government. In this case, the total statutory penalty for the false claims was calculated at \$411,560,406, bringing the total damages to \$417,910,021.26.

The court awarded the relators, who played a pivotal role in uncovering the fraud, 25% of the total award, amounting to \$104,477,503.30.

"This judgment sends a clear message that those who misuse taxpayer dollars will be held accountable. Medicare funds exist to support the most vulnerable members of our society – not to enrich corporations through fraud. Exploiting these resources is not only unlawful, but also a betrayal of public trust, said Beasley Allen's Leon Hampton, lead counsel for the "whistleblowers."

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