

PRACTICE GROUP

To: Hospitals and Health Systems and Fraud and Abuse

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From: Hospitals and Health Systems Practice Group Leadership

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New Settlement Reached under Stark Self-Referral Disclosure Protocol

By Jennifer Hutchens and Kelly Koeninger*

On May 22, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced it had reached another settlement under the Voluntary Self-Referral Disclosure Protocol (SRDP). This settlement involved violations of the federal physician self-referral statute (commonly known as the Stark Law) by a general acute-care hospital (Hospital) located in New York. The Hospital disclosed under the SRDP that one of its arrangements with a physician failed to satisfy the requirements of the rental of office space exception under the Stark Law. The Hospital's violations were settled for \$78,500. CMS provides a <u>list</u> of "select" self-disclosures resolved under the SRDP, including this settlement.

*We would like to thank Jennifer C. Hutchens, Esquire, and Kelly A. Koeninger, Esquire (Robinson Bradshaw & Hinson PA, Charlotte, NC), for providing this email alert. We would also like to thank the Hospitals and Health Systems Practice Group leadership for sharing this alert with the Fraud and Abuse Practice Group.

Member benefit educational opportunity:

Participate in <u>Part V</u> of the 2013 healthcare fraud and abuse bootcamp webinar series: compliance (tomorrow, June 5).

Write a letter of thanks to a Soldier today.



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