

FraudNY Update

Fraud,
the CRIME
You Pay for

Compiled by the New York Alliance Against Insurance Fraud and distributed every other Wednesday

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

New York insurer alerts 7,600 members of data breach

May 17, 2019, Albany, NY -- An employee at Independent Health emailed the information of 7,600 members on March 19 to an unauthorized individual, according to local NBC affiliate WGRZ. The individual who received the email of members' information was a fellow Independent Health member. The recipient notified Independent...

more info > [Becker's Hospital Review](#)

FALSE CLAIM

Real estate magnate implicated in scheme to inflate claim losses

May 14, 2019, Ontario County, NY -- The former COO of Morgan Communities pleaded guilty Monday to conspiracy to commit wire fraud, implicating — for the first time — local real estate magnate Robert Morgan in the scheme. Scott Cresswell admitted that Morgan directed him and others to be part of a conspiracy that inflated...

more info > [Democrat & Chronicle](#)

DRUG DIVERSION

Addicted New York doc writes opioid scripts for dead people

May 13, 2019, Orchard Park, NY -- From the time of his arrest, Dr. Paul T. Biddle was upfront about his addiction to painkillers. In time, the Orchard Park pain management physician also admitted writing prescriptions to two dead people and diverting the drugs to himself. Biddle, 55, was sentenced Monday by U.S. District Judge...

more info > [The Buffalo News](#)

MEDICARE/MEDICAID

Prosecutors: East Hampton doctor admits Medicaid larceny

May 12, 2019, East Hampton, NY -- Ringers were paid to undergo unnecessary medical tests — that then were billed to Medicaid — by an East Hampton doctor and his confreres

who have all pleaded guilty to larceny and will repay \$27.9 million, prosecutors said Friday. Dr. Bernard Bentley, 61, of East Hampton, will retribute...

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LIFE INSURANCE

Broke backgammon addict strangles ex for \$1.6M in New York

May 12, 2019, Albany, NY -- When Rod Colvin and Shele Danishefsky first met at a Jewish dance for singles, they were instantly smitten. They were so desperate to be together that they got engaged within months and talked about running away to Vegas to get married. Instead, they married seven months later, in September 1998,...

more info > [Mirror](#)

ARSON

Case against accused arsonist heads to trial

May 10, 2019, Columbia County, NY -- The case against a former firefighter accused of setting fire to his own home for the insurance is heading to trial. Barry Goldstein, 74, of Stockport, was arraigned in Columbia County Court on charges of first-degree insurance fraud, a class B felony; third-degree arson, a class C felony; and...

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Our mailing address is:

New York Alliance Against Insurance Fraud
1450 Western Avenue Suite 101
Albany, NY 12203