



# NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Texas

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

DATE: June 25, 2004

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## **HOUSTON WOMEN ADMIT TO FRAUD INVOLVING MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIRS IN EAST TEXAS**

(Tyler, Texas) Two individuals associated with a Lufkin medical supply company have pleaded guilty to defrauding Medicare. **BECALO (Becky) UTUK**, 44, of Houston pleaded guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud costing the United States \$1,759,771.59. Her co-worker, **IRIS BONILLA**, 23, also of Houston, pleaded guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud at a cost to the United States of \$151,939.31.

According to court documents, Utuk, 43, managed a company in Lufkin called All Divine Health Services, which supplied motorized wheelchairs to Medicare recipients. Between December 2002 and the Fall of 2003, the company claimed delivery of numerous motorized wheelchairs and billed Medicare in excess of \$4 million. However, Utuk and Bonilla actually conspired to submit fraudulent claims to Medicare for the cost of the motorized wheelchairs and accessories that were not medically necessary for the care of the patient and were often not even delivered. More specifically, Utuk is accused of submitting claims for which Medicare reimbursed All Divine Health Services \$1.8 million. Utuk allegedly diverted the fraud proceeds for her own personal use and benefit.

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Both Utuk and Bonilla face a maximum sentence of 5 years in prison and a fine of \$2.25 million. United States Magistrate Judge Harry McKee did not set a sentencing date at this time.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General and the FBI are investigating the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Reynaldo P. Morin is prosecuting the case.

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