

1 IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
2 THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT ANCHORAGE

3 STATE OF ALASKA,

4 Plaintiff,

5 vs.

6
7 TONYA LYNN STEICHEN

8 DOB: 06/04/1973

9 APSIN ID: 6390374

DMV NO.: 6390374 AK

ATN: 115745454

10 CAROLE ROSE LAMPL

11 DOB: 03/27/1994

12 APSIN ID: 7065375

13 DMV NO.: 7028344 AK

ATN: 115745445

14 Defendants.

15 No. 3AN-20-_____ CR (Tonya Lynn Steichen)

16 No. 3AN-20-_____ CR (Carole Rose Lampl)

17 3AN-19-00816/817/818SW; 3AN-19-01538SW

18 INFORMATION

19 I certify this document and its attachments do not contain the (1) name of a victim of a sexual offense listed in AS 12.61.140 or (2)
20 residence or business address or telephone number of a victim of or witness to any offense unless it is an address identifying the place of a
crime or an address or telephone number in a transcript of a court proceeding and disclosure of the information was ordered by the court.
The following counts charge a crime involving DOMESTIC VIOLENCE as defined in AS 18.66.990: NONE

21 Count I - AS 47.05.210(a)(1)/AS 11.16.110

22 Medical Assistance Fraud

23 Carole Rose Lampl - 001, Tonya Lynn Steichen - 001

24 Count II - AS 47.05.210(a)(2)/ AS 11.16.110

25 Medical Assistance Fraud

26 Carole Rose Lampl - 002, Tonya Lynn Steichen - 002

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Count III - AS 11.46.130(a)(1)/ AS 11.16.110
Theft In The Second Degree
Carole Rose Lampl - 003, Tonya Lynn Steichen - 003

Count IV - AS 11.31.100/11.46.130(a)(1)/ AS 11.16.110
Attempted Theft in the Second Degree
Carole Rose Lampl - 004, Tonya Lynn Steichen - 004

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CHARGES:

COUNT I

That on or about March 6, 2019, at or near Anchorage, in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, CAROLE ROSE LAMPL and TONYA LYNN STEICHEN, acting as principal or accomplice, knowingly submitted or authorized the submission of a claim to a medical assistance agency for property, services, or a benefit with reckless disregard that the claimant is not entitled to the property, services, or benefit.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 47.05.210(a)(1) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

COUNT II

That on or about March 6, 2019, at or near Anchorage, in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, CAROLE ROSE LAMPL and TONYA LYNN STEICHEN, acting as principal or accomplice, knowingly prepared or assisted another person to prepare a claim for submission to a medical assistance agency for property, services, or a benefit with reckless disregard that the claimant is not entitled to the property, services or benefit.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 47.05.210(a)(2) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

COUNT III

1 That on or about March 6, 2019, at or near Anchorage, in the Third Judicial
2 District, State of Alaska, CAROLE ROSE LAMPL and TONYA LYNN STEICHEN,
3 acting as principal or accomplice, committed the crime of theft and the value of the
4 property or services, adjusted for inflation as provided in AS 11.46.982, was \$750 or
5 more but less than \$25,000.

6 All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS
7 11.46.130(a)(1) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of
8 Alaska.

COUNT IV

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11 That on or about March 6, 2019, at or near Anchorage, in the Third Judicial
12 District, State of Alaska, CAROLE ROSE LAMPL and TONYA LYNN STEICHEN,
13 acting as principal or accomplice, with the intent to commit the following crime took a
14 substantial step towards committing the crime of theft and the value of the property or
15 services, adjusted for inflation as provided in AS 11.46.982, was \$750 or more but less
16 than \$25,000.

17 All of which is a class A misdemeanor offense being contrary to and in violation
18 of AS 11.46.130(a)(1) and AS11.31.100 and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and
19 dignity of the State of Alaska.

20 The undersigned swears under oath this Information is based upon a review of
21 Medicaid Fraud Control report 0703406 submitted to date.

22
23 The Alaska Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) is a criminal prosecution
24 component within the Attorney General's Office in the Criminal Division of the Alaska
25 Department of Law. This unit investigates various types of fraud committed under the
26 Alaska Medicaid program which is administered by the Alaska Department of Health and
27 Social Services (DHSS). In March 2019, the Program Manager for Consumer Direct

1 Care Network Alaska (Consumer Direct), which is a Personal Care Attendant (PCA)
2 agency, referred the instant matter to the Alaska MFCU. This case involves fraudulent
3 travel billing by a PCA or PCA provider that resulted in Medicaid payments for services
4 that were never provided and fraudulent overlap billing by that same provider for services
5 that were never rendered with the PCA was at her regular job at Walmart. PCA providers
6 are typically employees of PCA agencies (private entities) that are contracted to provide
7 services to Medicaid recipients. The PCA agency will bill the Alaska Medicaid Program
8 for the services rendered by the PCA provider after services are provided to the recipient.
9 In situations where the work was never performed Medicaid may receive fraudulent
10 claims for payment.

11 The Alaska Medicaid Program pays PCA agencies to provide services of daily
12 living to senior or disabled Medicaid recipients, which will allow Medicaid recipients to
13 stay in their home rather than be placed in an assisted living home type setting or other
14 long-term care facility. Medicaid recipients are evaluated for medical needs by an
15 employee of the Department of Health and Social Services. The DHSS evaluator decides
16 on an appropriate number of hours and the types of services for the recipient to receive
17 home healthcare based on the recipient's individualized needs. The Medicaid recipient is
18 then authorized to hire a PCA provider through a PCA agency to provide those home- or
19 community-based based healthcare services. The PCA provider, as an employee of the
20 PCA agency, fills out a timesheet for the work done over the course of specific day or
21 week and both the PCA provider and the recipient (or guardian/power of attorney) signs
22 the timesheet. On the timesheet, the PCA provider lists the specific activities they did
23 that day, such as "dressing," "bathing," "exercise," etc. along with an associated number
24 of hours that activity took to complete. The PCA provider then submits the timesheet to
25 the PCA agency. The PCA agency in turn bills Medicaid for the work reflected on the
26 PCA provider's timesheet under a particular code. Medicaid pays the PCA agency and
27 the agency must pay the PCA provider at least half of the amount it receives.

On March 6, 2019, Jenny Kimble, Program Manager for PCA agency Consumer
Direct contacted the Alaska Medicaid Fraud Control Unit to report alleged Medicaid

1 fraud. Kimble had discovered that Consumer Direct employee and PCA Carole Lampl
2 had moved out of state to Las Vegas, Nevada in December 2018 but continued to submit
3 PCA timesheets until early March 2019. The PCA timesheets represent that Lampl
4 provided PCA services to her mother, Tonya Steichen after she had already left Alaska.
5 When Kimble contacted Steichen, she acknowledged that her daughter had moved out of
6 state but represented that Lampl had just moved in March 2019.

7 MFCU Investigator Margo Mandel found evidence of Lampl's move on social
8 media posts along with evidence of other earlier travel dates where Lampl was travelling
9 outside the state but had submitted PCA timesheets. For example Lampl posted
10 information indicating that she had permanently left the state on December 3, 2018,
11 followed by regular posts demonstrating presence in Las Vegas up to and through
12 February 2019. Lampl continued submitting timesheets during this period while she was
13 in Las Vegas. In addition, Lampl had submitted PCA timesheets for dates of travel in
14 May 2018 while she was in Las Vegas attending the Electric Daisy Carnival, an annual
15 electronic dance festival held May 17-19, 2018.

16 Kimble conducted a telephone interview with Steichen March 6, 2019 but
17 Steichen claimed that Lampl had left Alaska that same week. When Kimble confronted
18 Steichen with Lampl's social media posts from Las Vegas, Steichen became aggressive
19 and ended the call. Before doing so Steichen indicated that she too had recently traveled
20 to Washington and to Las Vegas. Consumer Direct terminated Lampl effective March 6,
21 2019 and refused to honor any timesheets for 2019.

22 Lampl's timesheets detail various activities for daily living that Lampl claimed
23 to have provided to Steichen, such as transferring, toileting, bathing, preparing meals,
24 performing housework, shopping and doing laundry. The timesheets also contain Lampl's
25 handwritten notes at the bottom of each timesheet commenting on Steichen's emotional
26 and physical well-being. The timesheets bear both PCA Lampl's signature and Medicaid
27 recipient Steichen's signatures to claim that PCA services were provided on the dates
indicated. By signing the timesheets when she knew she was not receiving PCA services
from Lampl, Steichen actively participated in this fraud at times when it would have been

1 physically impossible for Lampl to provide those services to Steichen because they were
2 in different states, thousands of miles away from each other.

3 A direct example of this fraud includes Lampl's social media posts showing
4 several photos and an event ticket to Excision's 2019 Apex Tour concert from 8:00 PM
5 to 2:00 AM on January 19, 2019 in Las Vegas, as compared to Lampl's PCA timesheet
6 for the week of January 13 to 19, 2019 indicating that Lampl provided PCA services to
7 Steichen in Anchorage Alaska from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on that same date. This
8 timesheet included comments that Lampl had provided a shower, dinner and cleaned for
9 Steichen with another detail claiming that Steichen had "a lot of pain that day" and it is
signed by Steichen.

10 Investigators executed search warrants with Alaska Airlines, Delta Airlines and
11 United Airlines for the period between January 1, 2015 and June 30, 2019. MFCU
12 investigators also served a search warrant on Walmart for Lampl's employment records
13 detailing the dates for shifts Lampl worked for this same period. Analysis of these travel
14 records also revealed multiple periods where Steichen (the recipient) traveled in and out
15 of Alaska during time periods where PCA timesheets were submitted.

16 Flight records and other evidence corroborating the travel illustrate the illegal
17 travel billing in this case which is illustrated in the accompanying chart (see fig. 1).

Travel Date	Travel Direction	Travel Date	Travel Direction	Traveler	Amount Paid
3/16/2016	Anchorage to Florida	3/26/2016	Returned to Anchorage	Carole Lampl	\$73.20
12/10/2016	Anchorage to Kodiak	1/08/2017	Returned to Anchorage	Tonya Steichen	\$1,390.80
10/07/2017	Anchorage to Dallas/Ft. Worth	10/26/2017	Returned to Anchorage	Tonya Steichen	\$610.00
1/05/2018	Anchorage to Atlanta	1/05/2018	Returned to Anchorage	Tonya Steichen	\$24.40
5/16/2018	Travelled to Las Vegas	5/28/2018	Returned to Anchorage	Carole Lampl	\$585.60
7/14/2018	Anchorage to Kodiak	8/1/2018	Returned to Anchorage	Tonya Steichen	\$850.00
12/03/2018	Moved to Las			Carole Lampl	\$1,237.50

	Vegas				
2/22/2019	Anchorage to Las Vegas	3/06/2019	Returned to Anchorage	Tonya Steichen	
			TOTAL		\$4,771.50

fig. 1

A review of Lampl's Employee Check Report Sub pay stubs from Consumer Direct reveal that Lampl was paid for PCA services not rendered during the identified travel periods as well as the identified overlap dates and times.

A review of Lampl's Walmart employment timecards between February 10, 2015 and June 30, 2018 identifies 207 instances where Lampl was clocked in at Walmart but still claimed to be providing PCA services to Steichen during the same timeframe. The total amount of this overlap billing is \$8,173.65. Lampl's last day of employment at Walmart in Anchorage was November 23, 2018 at store #4359 at 7405 Debarr Road. On December 5, 2018 Lampl began working at store #4974, Sam's Club at 2650 E. Craig Road in North Las Vegas, NV. This data corresponds with Lampl's social media posts indicating she left Alaska for Nevada on December 3, 2018.

Lampl's last check as a PCA from Consumer Direct was issued on January 18, 2019 for the pay period December 23, 2018 to January 5, 2019. Although Consumer Direct ceased processing payments for Lampl after that pay period, Lampl and Steichen continued submitting timesheets through March 2, 2019 in an attempt at a higher fraud amount. Total overlap for both travel billing and employment overlap is \$12,945.15.

BAIL INFORMATION

Tonya Lynn Steichen

CONV COURT	CONV DATE	CONVICTING CHARGE	COURT DOCKET	POS ID	FEL	ATN
DKO	11/13/08	FALSE INFO/REPORT-FALSE INFO TO PC	3KO-08-370		Y	N 109682973
DAN	06/19/06	DRIVING WITH LIC REVOKED/SUSP/LTD	3AN-06-4549		Y	N 109972035
DAN	07/15/05	OPERATE VEHICLE W/O INSURANCE	3AN-05-5759		Y	N 109539594
SAN	02/06/04	FAIL TO STOP AT DIRECTION OF OFFIC	3AN-03-9915		Y	Y 108584379
SAN	02/06/04	THEFT 3- VALUE \$50-\$499	3AN-03-9915		Y	N 108584379
DAN	02/06/04	ASSAULT 4-CAUSE FEAR OF IMMINENT I	3AN-03-8783		Y	N 107556894
DAN	02/06/04	THEFT 3- VALUE \$50-\$499	3AN-03-8783		Y	N 107556894
DAN	03/19/03	THEFT BY SHOPLIFTING	3AN-03-637		Y	N 108466668
DAN	03/19/03	THEFT BY DECEPTION - FALSE PRETENS	3AN-02-7127		Y	N 107251092
SKO	02/06/04	CNTRLD SUBS 4-POSSESS IA, IIA	3KO-01-175		Y	Y 103322097

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Carole Rose Lampl

No convictions in Alaska

Dated at Anchorage, Alaska, this ____ day of October, 2020.

CLYDE SNIFFEN, JR.
ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: _____
Arne F. Soldwedel
Assistant Attorney General
Alaska Bar No. 0911078