2019 NHCAA
Awards Program
October 16, 2019 | Nashville, Tennessee
The National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association is proud to present the United States of America v. Beauchamp et al. investigation and prosecution teams with this year’s Investigation of the Year Award.

This case became the largest, non-drug related, criminal healthcare fraud investigation in the Northern District of Texas. The collaboration between federal agencies and private insurance carriers was critically important to the overall success of the investigation. This highly effective investigation and prosecution yielded a Federal Grand Jury indicting 21 individuals associated with Forest Park Medical Center on health care fraud-related charges in this $200 million scheme.

The case was a massive and complex undertaking involving the investigation of Forest Park Medical Center (Forest Park), a luxurious, physician-owned hospital in Dallas, Texas. Forest Park was co-founded by Alan Beauchamp, Dr. Richard Toussaint, Wade Barker, Wilton Burt, and others as an out-of-network hospital with the ability to set its own prices for services and was generally reimbursed at substantially higher rates than in-network providers. The hospital’s strategy was to maximize profit for physician investors by refusing to join the networks of insurance plans for a period of time after its formation, allowing its owners and managers to enrich themselves through out-of-network billing and reimbursement. The case focused on a vast bribery conspiracy involving prominent surgeons, an out-of-network billing model, and waiver of, or reduction to, in-network levels of co-pays and co-insurance, which facilitated the billing of over a billion dollars to primarily private insurance carriers.

Ten defendants pleaded guilty to federal charges which included Barker, Beauchamp, and Toussaint. In a separate trial, a jury found Burt and other conspirators guilty for their roles in the scheme. Each defendant was convicted of various offenses some of which included conspiracy to pay and receive bribes and kickbacks, violating the Federal Anti-Kickback Statute, violating the Travel Act with a predicate underlying offense of Texas state commercial bribery, and conspiracy to commit money laundering.
CONGRATULATIONS TO

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