

News Release



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BCBSF INVESTIGATION RESULTS IN ARREST OF PORT ST. LUCIE RESIDENTS

JACKSONVILLE -- A Port St. Lucie nurse and her husband were arrested and charged with fraud and grand theft as the result of a referral by the Special Investigation Unit (SIU) of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida (BCBSF) to the Florida Department of Insurance (DOI).

The charges allege that Eleanor S. Case and David W. Case received reimbursement for over \$100,000 in false health insurance claims submitted to the State of Florida Employees' Group Health Insurance Program. Both charges are first-degree felonies.

"This case is another example of how BCBSF's investigators are cooperating with state and local authorities to fight health care fraud," said Charles A. Hammaker, Jr., director of BCBSF's SIU. "Fighting health care fraud is an important part of BCBSF's continuing efforts to control health care costs."

BCBSF customers and other Floridians who suspect health insurance fraud may call the company's toll-free fraud hotline at 1-800-678-8355 between 8 a.m. and 4:40 p.m. (EDT) Monday through Friday. Last year, BCBSF recovered \$1.8 million by cracking down on health care fraud.

BCBSF is a mutual insurance company, which means the company pays taxes and is subject to the same regulation by the DOI as other insurance companies operating in the State of Florida. In 1992, BCBSF incurred more than \$55 million in state & federal taxes and assessments.

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