

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today that on May 18, 2000, Robin Andres, entered a guilty plea to one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud and health care fraud in the Western District of Washington on charges relating to the submissions of health care claims to TRICARE (formerly Civilian Health and Medical Program for the Unified Services, or CHAMPUS), Medicare, and private insurance companies. Andres, an employee of Nasser Ordoubadi, M.D. and the General Medical Clinics, was responsible for submitting and supervising the submissions of health care claims on the behalf of her employers.

In October 1999, Andres and others were indicted on the following charges: two counts of conspiracy, 15 counts of health care fraud, and 16 counts of mail fraud. These charges are the result of an investigation into allegations of false and inflated claims submitted by Ordoubadi and the General Medical Clinics. These inflated claims contain billings for services not rendered, billings inflated through upcoding, and billings for uncovered services.

Sentencing for Andres has been scheduled for August 4, 2000. She faces a fine of up to \$ 250,000 or a prison sentence of up to five years.