



Demystifying
THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
A Quarterly Series

CARE

*Community Awareness,
Response, & Engagement*

**We will begin our
presentation shortly.**

Accessibility/Accesibilidad

- **Find the menu bar at the bottom of your zoom window** | *Busque la barra de menú en la parte inferior de su ventana de zoom*
 - **For closed captioning, select “more”** | *Para subtítulos, seleccione “more”*
 - **For Spanish and American Sign Language interpretation, select the image that looks like this/Para interpretación en español, seleccione la imagen que se parece a esta:**

Today's Agenda

- I. **Welcome** – CARE Community Outreach Manager, Sarah Farouq
- II. **Introduction** – Special Assistant Attorney General, James Toma
- III. **Presentation on the Division of Medi-Cal Fraud and Elder Abuse (DMFEA)** –
Supervising Deputy Attorney General, Meghan Anderson
- IV. **Questions**
- V. **Thank you**

Division of Medi-Cal Fraud and Elder Abuse



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California DOJ Division

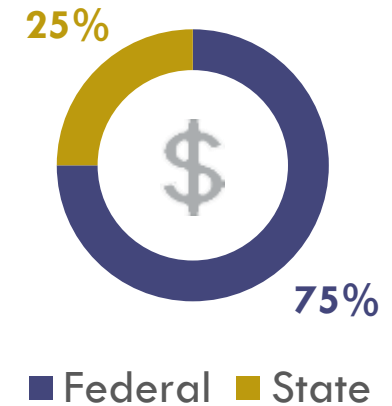
MEDICAID FRAUD CONTROL UNIT

Medicaid Fraud Control Units are defined in United States' Code and originate from 1970s Congressional hearings on fraud/abuse.

PARTNER AGENCY TO DHCS

Partner agency to the Department of Health Care Services that functions as the *Single State Agency* administering California's Medicaid program.

UNIQUE FUNDING STRUCTURE



California Medi-Cal Statistics



FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024



39.1M
California
Population

Source: DHCS – Feb 2024



14,981,547
Medi-Cal
Beneficiaries



\$151.8
Medi-Cal
Spending

Source: LAO



13,000
Health Care
Workers

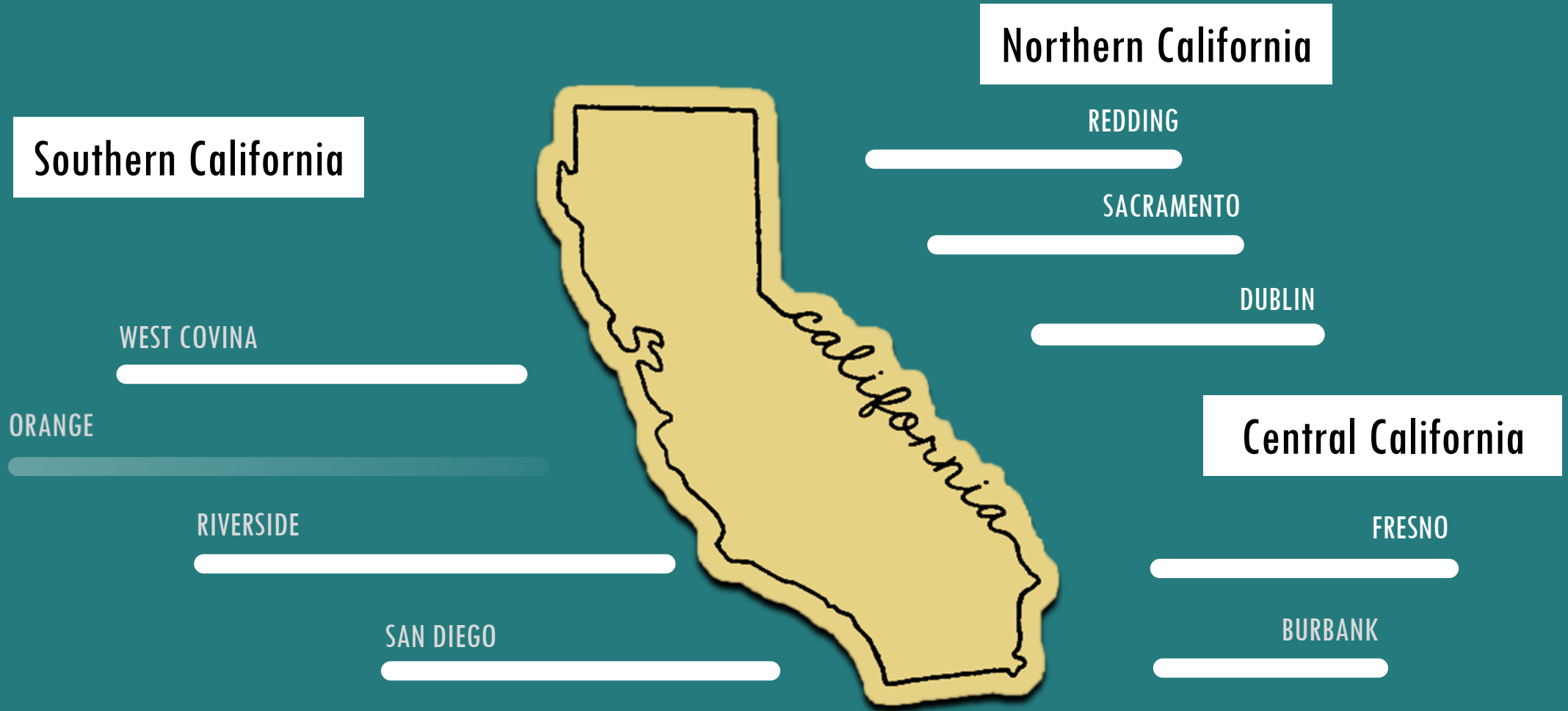
Source - DHCS



400+
Hospital
Providers

Source - DHCS

Regional Offices



STATE & FEDERAL Investigation & Prosecution Authority

Fraud

**ORCHESTRATED AND CONDUCTED BY
MEDI-CAL PROVIDERS**



Fee for Service or Managed Healthcare Plans

INDIVIDUAL WHISTLEBLOWER



Qui Tam

FALSE CLAIMS ACT



Violations

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STATE & FEDERAL Investigation & Prosecution Authority

Abuse or Neglect



HEALTH CARE FACILITIES



BOARD AND CARE FACILITIES



NON-INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS

Long-Term Health Care Facilities that accept Medi-Cal Patients

Two or more unrelated elders/dependent adults receiving substantial ADL assistance

Medi-Cal Recipients in a non-institutional or other setting provided the allegation occurred in connection with the provision of Medi-Cal services

- Pediatric Dentistry
- Medical Transportation Services

Special Agents



Deputy
Attorneys
General



Legal Analysts
& Secretaries



Medical
Professionals



INVESTIGATIVE & PROSECUTION PERSONNEL

Data
Development
Analysts



Digital Forensics
Specialists



Complaint/Referral
Analysts



Investigative
Auditors



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Investigative & Prosecution Skilled Expertise

Medi-Cal Data and Coding	Hospice Fraud	SNF Staffing Ratio Analysis
Bank Record/Financial Review	Vulnerable Victims/Witnesses	False Claims Act
Healthcare Fraud Schemes	Failure to Report	Nationally Linked Fraud Cases
Drug Diversion Schemes	Elder or Dependent Adult Charging Strategies - Exclusion	Whistleblower Cases (Qui Tam)

**Multi-disciplinary
team approach**

**Conducted During
Normal Business
Hours**

**Executed in Least
Intrusive Manner
Possible**

**Operation Guardian
(Pre-COVID 19
Pandemic)**

**Operation SAFE
(Post-COVID 19
Pandemic)**

**California
Government Code
section 12528.1**



**State
Inspection
Authority**



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Fraud Case: New Hope Hospice

- In-depth investigation showed two companies transferred “patients” back and forth using a network of bribes, kickbacks, and financial incentives to “recruit” people for hospice. \$4.2 million billed to Medi-Cal.
- Result: 6 felony convictions, awaiting sentencing

Financial Abuse Case: *People v. Engelbrecht*

- Defendant stole over \$500,000 from elderly mother while acting as Power of Attorney. Victim suffered from Huntington's Disease and lived in a Board and Care home.
- Result: Suspect convicted and sentenced to 3 years state prison pending appeal.

Facility Neglect Case: *People v. Anderson*

- Allegation involves a licensed vocational nurse (LVN) who oversaw an assisted living facility. Victim suffered from a stroke and was found on the floor. Suspect refused to call 911 and did not notify doctor. Victim passed away as a result.
- Result: Case filed, litigation is pending.

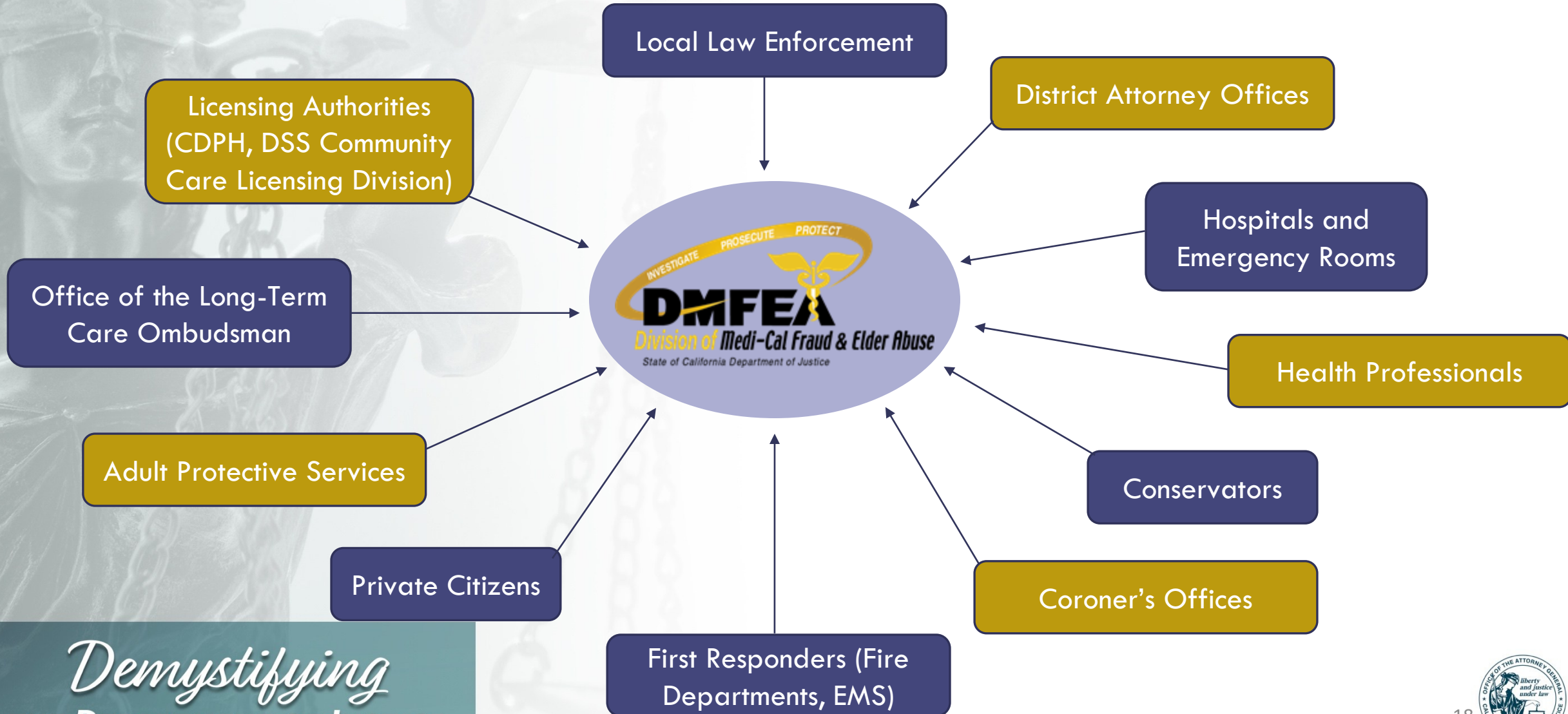
Dental Provider Fraud: *People v. Wisner*

- Dr. Wisner was the #1 X-ray biller in the state. Investigation revealed millions in billing fraud and hundreds of unnecessary X-rays on elderly and minor patients
- Result: Convicted of felony fraud and sentenced to seven years prison

Drug Diversion: *United States v. Kemprud*

- Suspect ran a clinic out of a nail salon after business hours. Undercover investigation showed suspect prescribed controlled substances with no medical necessity. Joint investigation with federal government.
- Result: Guilty of 14 felony counts of illegally prescribing opioids and other controlled substances. Sentenced to probation in federal court.

Referrals to DMFEA



Complaints & Referrals

Telephone

- 800-722-0432 (Hotline)
- 916-559-6180 (Outreach)

Fax

- 916-263-0855

Online Reporting

- <https://oag.ca.gov/dmfea/Reporting>

Outreach E-Mail

- dmfeaoutreach@doj.ca.gov

Mailing Address

- Office of the Attorney General
Division of Medi-Cal Fraud and Elder Abuse
Case Intake and Development Unit
2329 Gateway Oaks, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95833-4252



Cross Reporting Tips

- Report Early
- Send to Outreach Email for Fastest Processing

dmfeaoutreach@doj.ca.gov



Join the California DOJ Team! WE ARE HIRING

Current Openings:

- Attorneys
- Special Agents
- Investigative Auditors
- Nurses
- IT Specialists

Who Should Apply

If you are passionate about public service and share our commitment to serving and protecting Californians, please apply today.

Join us and gain access to amazing health, vision, dental, and retirement benefits from the State of California!

For additional information:
DMFEA_Personnel@doj.ca.gov

About DMFEA

DOJ's Department of Medi-Cal Fraud and Elder Abuse (DMFEA) protects California's most vulnerable residents and helps safeguard the state's Medi-Cal Program, which provides healthcare to Californians in need. DMFEA prosecutes those who would defraud the Medi-Cal program and protects its recipients — including individuals in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities— from abuse and neglect.



SCAN ME

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Upcoming Events

Demystifying the Department of Justice: Division of Law Enforcement

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Virtual Presentation

You may register at:

https://doj-ca.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_HhahksbtTcq5UyCekgCmaQ#/registration

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