

Pharmacy Owner Sentenced to Prison for Health Care Fraud

JUSTICE NEWS

Department of Justice

Office of Public Affairs

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

A New York woman was sentenced to 78 months in prison for defrauding health care programs, including more than \$6.5 million from Medicare Part D plans and Medicaid drug plans.

According to court documents, Aleah Mohammed, 37, of Queens, pleaded guilty to one count of mail fraud, one count of health care fraud, and one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud.

According to court documents, Mohammed was an owner and operator of five pharmacies: Superdrugs Inc., Superdrugs I Inc., Superdrugs II Inc., S&A Superdrugs II Inc. and Village Stardrugs Inc. Between 2015 and 2020, Mohammed used these pharmacies to defraud health care programs, including Medicare and Medicaid, by **submitting claims for prescription drugs that were not dispensed, not prescribed as claimed, not medically necessary, or that were purportedly dispensed during a time when the pharmacy was no longer registered with the State of New York. The fraudulent claims included claims for expensive prescription drugs for the treatment of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).**

Mohammed used proceeds of the scheme to purchase herself luxury items, such as jewelry and a Porsche.

Assistant Attorney General Kenneth A. Polite, Jr. of the Justice Department's Criminal Division; U.S. Attorney Breon Peace for the Eastern District of New York; Special Agent in Charge Scott J. Lampert of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General's (HHS-OIG) Office of Investigations; Assistant Director Luis Quesada of the FBI's Criminal Investigative Division; and Assistant Director-in-Charge Michael J. Driscoll of the FBI's New York Field Office made the announcement.

HHS-OIG and the FBI investigated the case.

Trial Attorneys Andrew Estes and Patrick J. Campbell of the Criminal Division's Fraud Section prosecuted the case.

SOURCE: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/pharmacy-owner-sentenced-prison-health-care-fraud>

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INSIDE MEDICARE —

CMS NEWS

April 4, 2022

Biden-Harris Administration Announces a New Way for Medicare Beneficiaries to Get Free Over-the-Counter COVID-19 Tests

Starting April 4, 2022, more than 59 million Americans with Medicare Part B, including those enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan, now have access to over-the-counter COVID-19 tests at no cost. This is in addition to the two sets of four free at-home COVID-19 tests Americans can continue to order from <https://www.covid.gov/tests>.

People with Medicare can get up to eight tests per calendar month from participating pharmacies and health care providers for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

This is the first time that Medicare has covered an over-the-counter self-administered test at no cost to beneficiaries.

A list of eligible pharmacies and other health care providers that have committed publicly to participate in this initiative can be found [here](#). People with Medicare should check with their pharmacy or health care provider to find out whether they are participating.

For more information, please see to: <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/medicare-covers-over-counter-covid-19-tests>.

People with Medicare can get additional information by contacting 1-800-MEDICARE and by going to: <https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus>.

Medicare also maintains several resources to help ensure beneficiaries receive the correct benefits while also avoiding the potential for fraud or scams. More details—particularly on identifying scams due to COVID-19—can be found at <https://www.medicare.gov/basics/reporting-medicare-fraud-and-abuse>.

The BENES 2.0 Act

(Beneficiary Enrollment Notification and Eligibility Simplification (BENES) Act,) passed in 2021, people who enroll during Medicare's General Election Period (GEP) will have coverage effective on the first day of the month after they enroll, eliminating some gaps in coverage.

The Benes 2.0 Act would require the federal government to provide advance notice to people approaching Medicare eligibility about basic Medicare enrollment rules, filling a longstanding gap in federal outreach and education.

For each 12-month period that an individual delays enrollment in Medicare Part B past age 65, they will have to pay a 10% Part B premium penalty, unless they have insurance based on their or their spouse's current job-based insurance or are eligible for a [Medicare Savings Program \(MSP\)](#), which helps pay Medicare costs for people with limited income and savings.

In most cases, people will have to pay the Medicare Part B penalty every month for as long as they have Medicare.

People who are enrolled in Medicare because of a disability and paying Part B premium penalties will no longer have to pay the premium penalty once they turn 65.

SOURCE:

<https://www.medicarerights.org/media-center/deadline-approaching-for-both-the-medicare-general-enrollment-and-medicare-advantage-open-enrollment-periods>



Extra time to sign up for Medicare is available for anyone who wasn't able to contact the Social Security Administration because of problems with Social Security's telephone system between January 1, 2022, and December 30, 2022.



You're eligible for extra time to sign up for Medicare IF all of these apply:

- You're eligible to sign up for Medicare between January 1, 2022 - December 30, 2022 and were unable to because of problems with Social Security's telephone system.
- You haven't signed up for Medicare yet.
- You sign up for Medicare by December 30, 2022.

How do I sign up during this time?

You can sign up the same way you would if you were signing up during the enrollment period you missed. If you need help with your Medicare enrollment, contact the AR State Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) at www.shiphelp.org or call **AR SHIIP at 800-224-6330**.

<https://www.findhelp.org/>



Search and connect to support — Simply put in your zip code and you will be directed to financial assistance, food pantries, medical care, and other free or reduced-cost in your area.

Choose from these categories to browse local programs and search for services: food, housing, goods, transit, health, money, care, education, work and legal.



ACL's Eldercare Locator can connect you to your local ADRC or AAA and to a variety of other services.

Visit www.eldercare.gov or call 800-677-1116.

✓ **VERIFY**



While some Medicare Advantage plans run by private insurers offer flex cards worth a few hundred dollars, they aren't available for free from original Medicare.

✓ **VERIFY**



Can Medicare recipients receive a free Medicare flex card?

VERIFY is dedicated to helping you know what's true and false, using primary sources and vetted experts.

Want something verified? Email questions@verifythis.com or text 202-410-8808.

Have you heard about Medicare flex cards? These are not what they seem and are not for all Medicare beneficiaries.

Watch this informative video from **VERIFY** to learn more. For questions about Medicare coverage, contact your state **SHIP National Technical Assistance Center** at **877-839-2675** or **@Medicare**.

FLEX CARDS:

<https://www.verifythis.com/article/news/verify/money-verify/medicare-2880-flex-card-not-free-benefit-on-some-medicare-advantage-plans/536-f0f9f280-6b8f-4c07-b775-fb3ed2b24029?fbclid=IwAR1kJX-rMwFv76SrbD9w9dbtPGDk2fMOUr7GHnRbBe8wfSvWw3cENMjRiDe>



**Attend SMP's
FRAUD FACT FRIDAY
to hear the latest
fraud and scam alerts!**

For more information:
Call — 866-726-2916 or
Email: kathleen.pursell@dhs.arkansas.gov



866-726-2916

Why create an account?



It's quick

Your personal **my** Social Security account gives you immediate access to important information and tools, putting you in control of your time!



It's secure

We're committed to using the best technologies available to protect your personal information; extra security measures keep you safe and secure.



It's easy

We make signing up for your personal **my** Social Security account convenient so you can skip the trip!

Thursday, March 31, 2022
For Immediate Release

Social Security to Offer Self-Attestation of Sex Marker in Social Security Number Records

Kilolo Kijakazi, Acting Commissioner of Social Security, announced that the agency will offer people the choice to self-select their sex on their Social Security number (SSN) record. The agency anticipates this option will be available in the fall of 2022.

"The Social Security Administration is committed to reducing barriers and ensuring the fair treatment of the LGBTQ+ community by updating our procedures for Social Security number records," said Acting Commissioner Kijakazi. "This policy change will allow people to self-select their sex in our records without needing to provide documentation of their sex designation."

People who update their sex marker in Social Security's records will need to apply for a replacement SSN card. They will still need to show a current document to prove their identity, but they will no longer need to provide medical or legal documentation of their sex designation once the policy change becomes effective. SSN cards do not include sex markers.

In February 2022, the agency issued guidance instructing employees to accept evidence documents that contain non-binary identifiers (e.g., "X") for original SSN and replacement SSN card applications, and other updates to the agency's internal SSN records. The agency is exploring possible future policy and systems updates to support an "X" sex designation for the SSN card application process.

SOURCE: [Press Release](#) | [Press Office](#) | [SSA](#)

<https://www.ssa.gov/news/press/releases/2022/>

utm_content=pressrelease&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery#3-2022-2

<https://faq.ssa.gov/en-us/Topic/article/KA-10018>

Protect Yourself from Social Security Scams



Scammers are pretending to be government employees. Learn how to protect yourself and report scams.



www.ssa.gov

Supplemental Security Income
(www.ssa.gov/benefits/ssi/)

People Helping Others
(www.ssa.gov/thirdparty/)

Regional Contacts
(www.ssa.gov/agency/rcds.html)

mySocialSecurity Account
(www.ssa.gov/myaccount)

Scam Reporting
(<https://secure.ssa.gov/ipff/home>)

How to Slam the Scam

HANG UP! →

DON'T GIVE THEM PERSONAL INFORMATION →

DON'T TRUST YOUR CALLER ID →

DON'T GIVE THEM MONEY →

REPORT THE SCAM AT [OIG.SSA.GOV](https://oig.ssa.gov) ←

DON'T BELIEVE THEM ←

[OIG.SSA.GOV/SCAM](https://oig.ssa.gov/scam)

SENIOR PLANET

FROM AARP

Do you have questions? Do you need technological assistance with your phone or computer, Zoom meetings? What about a Tai Chi class?

Have you heard Senior Planet?

For online programs every week to keep you learning and exploring log on to <https://seniorplanet.org>! Technology questions? Simply call the National Senior Planet Hotline – 888-713-3495

TERMINOLOGY—

MONEY MULE

“Money mules” are individuals who receive and move money that came from victims of fraud.

Some money mules know they are participating in a crime, but others are not aware that they are assisting in a crime.

Don't Fall Victim....VERIFY FIRST!

Simply type the company's name into your favorite search engine with terms like “review,” “complaint,” or “scam” to see what people have to say about them.



RIDE UNITED
Transportation Access



Don't let transportation challenges stop you (or your family and friends) from getting vaccinated.

We are now providing free or discounted rides to vaccination sites wherever Lyft services are available. This program is for **everyone**, including people who have collapsible wheelchairs and walkers.

Personal aides welcome to ride along!

Dial 2-1-1 and schedule your ride today!



Live. Free. Confidential. Multilingual. Always Open.

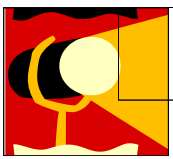
IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW:

- CREDIT FREEZE — utilize this — IT STOPS ALL FRAUD (New Accounts) Set up a [credit freeze](#) to prevent a crook from establishing accounts or borrowing in your name; you can lift the freeze at any time.
- DO NOT USE SAME PASSWORD (80% USE SAME PASSWORD)
- USE “PASSWORD MANAGER”
- MONITOR YOUR CREDIT REPORTS!

Get free copies of your credit reports from the major credit bureaus:

[Equifax](#)
[Experian](#)
[TransUnion](#)

800-525-6285
888-397-3742
800-680-7289

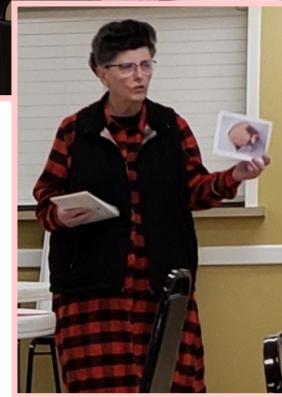


SMP VOLUNTEERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

Really Special and Valuable People!

AR SMP Volunteers (with RSVP of Central Arkansas AmeriCorps Seniors) help with SMP Fraud Bingo as Dee Edwards, Volunteer Coordinator, calls the game.

(Pictured L—R) Norma Haralson and Judy Jackson.



Rosalind Stone, SMP Volunteer with Tri County Rural Health Network, working at the Social Isolation Forum on April 6, 2022 at the Mid-Delta Senior Center in West Helena.

There were 15 people in attendance. She shared a lot of SMP information and promotional items. Thanks Ros!



Pictured Below L—R:
SMP Volunteers with ARSILC: Ella Barnett, Helen Neely, and Ethel Neely.

FranSha Anderson gave a presentation on how to recognize scammers related to Medicare Fraud.

Anna Linville, AR SMP Volunteer with Elder Tree / Spinsterhaven in Fayetteville hosted our Senior Medicare Patrol booth at the Wellness Fair at the Rogers Adult Wellness Center on April 8, 2022. Great attendance! Thanks Anna!



Elder LGBTQ Information

Pride Discussion Group—Online—Join weekly, lively discussions about all things LGBT+

JOIN WEEKLY 3:00—4:00 pm

Description: Calling all older adults in the LGBT+ community! Join us for a weekly social hour of discussion and fun where you will can connect other older adults in the community.

Click or tap to join this group by Zoom: [Join “Pride Discussion Group”](#) OR Call in by phone: 1-720-707-2699

SOURCE: Senior Planet—<https://seniorplanet.org>

PODCAST—BEING LGBTQ—Hosted by LGBTQ advocate Sam Wise, Being LGBTQ is informative and friendly!

The podcast, hosted by Sam Wise, is on Amazon Music and features interviews with people from across the community. Striving to give a platform to those who feel underrepresented, within it, the latest issues impacting the community are discussed; the voices of LGBTQ people are amplified; you will be sign posted to the latest LGBTQ music artists and much more!



Thanks to younger Americans, the share of LGBTQ people in the US population has continued to grow.

MICHAEL LUONGO

The percentage of Americans identifying as LGBTQ grew from 3.5 percent in 2012 to 7.1 percent in 2021, according to a poll conducted by [Gallup](#).

Younger populations are driving the uptick in the percentage of queer people in the population, according to Gallup, which interviewed more than 12,000 adults from every state as part of an annual report on LGBTQ demographics in America. A whopping 21 percent of the Generation Z population — which includes those born between 1997 and 2003 — identifies as part of the LGBTQ community.

Among Millennials, 11 percent say they identify as LGBTQ. That number dropped to four percent

among Generation X respondents, just under three percent for Baby Boomers, and about one percent for Traditionalists, which encompasses those born before 1946.

The share of overall respondents from the Generation Z population has grown from seven percent to 12 percent as that demographic has entered adulthood. Traditionalists, meanwhile, now make up eight percent of respondents.

Among all respondents, 6.6 percent did not elaborate on their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Notably, the majority of LGBTQ individuals polled — 57 percent — say they identify as bisexual, and bisexual people represent four percent of the overall population in the United States. Gay respondents

make up 21 percent of the queer population, compared to 14 percent for lesbian individuals, 10 percent for transgender folks, and 4.3 percent of those classified as “other,” which includes queer and same-gender loving folks.

Generation Z boasts more than half of the bisexual respondents as any other group. Six percent of women identify as bisexual compared to two percent of men.

Gallup also recently found that the percentage of LGBTQ Americans married to a same-sex partner has remained steady at 10 percent. Six percent of queer adults are in same-sex domestic partnerships, which is down slightly, and the share of LGBTQ people who have never married has gone up to 53 percent.

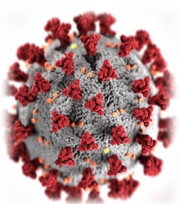
SOURCE: [Gallup: 7 Percent of Americans Identify as LGBTQ \(gaycitynews.com\)](#)

Hospital System Agrees to Pay \$22.7 Million

April 15, 2022

Walla Walla, WA — Providence Health & Services Washington has agreed to pay \$22,690,458 to resolve allegations that it fraudulently billed Medicare, Medicaid, and other federal health care programs for medically unnecessary neurosurgery procedures. Providence St. Mary's paid neurosurgeons based on a productivity metric that provided them a financial incentive to perform more surgical procedures of greater complexity. The settlement says two neurosurgeons at the hospital performed surgeries on candidates who were not appropriate, created an excessive level of complications and negative outcomes, and failed to document properly.

SOURCE: Department of Justice press release: [Hospital System Agrees to Pay \\$22.7 Million \(smpresource.org\)](https://www.smpresource.org/Hospital-System-Agrees-to-Pay-22.7-Million)



COVID-19

What Can You Do to Stop COVID-19 Fraud?

- Do not give out your Medicare number to anyone other than your doctor, health care provider, or other trusted representative.
- Protect your Medicare number and treat your Medicare card like a credit card. Never provide your Medicare number to anyone who contacts you through unsolicited calls, texts, or emails.
- Be cautious of anyone who comes to your door offering free coronavirus testing, treatment, or supplies.
- Don't click on links from sources you don't know, which could put your computer or device at risk. Make sure the anti-malware and anti-virus software on your computer are up to date.
- Don't post on social media that you are getting tested for or receiving a vaccination for COVID-19. Posting content that includes your date of birth, health care details, or other personally identifiable information can put you at risk as these details can be used to steal your identity.

- Be cautious when purchasing medical supplies from unverified sources, including online advertisements and email/phone solicitations.
- Be cautious of COVID-19 survey scams that offer money or gifts in exchange for personal, medical, or financial information.
- Do your homework before making a donation to a charity or crowdfunding site due to a public health emergency. Be particularly wary of any charities requesting donations by cash, by gift card, or wire transfer.

How Your Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Can Help

Your local SMP is ready to provide you with the information you need to **PROTECT** yourself from Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse; **DETECT** potential fraud, errors, and abuse; and **REPORT** your concerns. SMPs and their trained volunteers help educate and empower Medicare beneficiaries in the fight against health care fraud.

Your SMP can help you with your questions, concerns, or complaints about potential fraud and abuse issues.

It also can provide information and educational presentations.

Be aware of **SCAM(s)**:

Report all scams to the Arkansas SMP — **1-866-726-2916**



In case you missed it:

Seven On Your Side has a warning for seniors on Medicare – do not fall for a "free genetic testing" scam.

Click on the link below to see the segment that aired April 7 on CH 7. Details are in the scam alert below.

WATCH: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/insurance/seniors-on-medicare-do-not-fall-for-free-genetic-testing-scam/ar-AAW1EIK>

CARDIOVASCULAR Genetic Testing Fraud

What is Cardiovascular Genetic Testing Fraud/Scams?

Cardiovascular genetic testing fraud occurs when Medicare is billed for a cardio-type test (cheek swab) or screening that was not medically necessary and/or was not ordered by a beneficiary's treating physician.

What You Should Know:

Scammers are offering Medicare beneficiaries cheek swabs for genetic testing to obtain their Medicare information for fraudulent billing purposes/medical identity theft. If Medicare denies the claim, you could be responsible for the entire cost, which averages \$9,000 to \$11,000.

- ◆ You receive an unsolicited call from someone stating your doctor **or cardiologist** requested that you have the testing done and they will send you a cheek swab testing kit.
- ◆ Caller ID may even show your doctor's name or phone number.
- ◆ A company calls offering you "free" or "at no cost to you" testing without a treating physician's order and then bills Medicare. Many scammers 'coach' you on what to say when transferred on to another 'agent.'
- ◆ Billing Medicare (usually thousands of dollars) for a broad range of cardiac genetic tests that you did not request or even receive.
- ◆ Report it to the AR SMP — 866-726-2916

If you fall victim and give your Medicare number to a scam caller, report it to the AR SMP at **866-726-2916**.

You will need to read your Medicare Summary Notices (MSNs) to look for charges for things you did not receive, and that your doctor did not order, like charges for braces (knee, back, wrist); or lab tests (especially related to COVID-19 and genetic testing).



Tip:
Just hang up on scam callers!



JOIN US for SMP's "FRAUD FACT FRIDAY"

Fraud Fact Fridays are casual, 15-minute Zoom meetings, with Q & A following each meeting. These will be scheduled on various Friday's at 10 a.m. each month. You will receive an invitation to attend prior to each event. You will simply click on the link to attend. It's easy!

We will use this time to inform you of the latest scams and other current Medicare topics. Most importantly, you will have the opportunity to tell us of any scams you have experienced, ask questions, and share any other Medicare-related concerns or other information with attendees.

Mark your calendars to join on Friday mornings at 10 a.m. for SMP's Fraud Fact Friday!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING A NOTIFICATION OF THE FRAUD FACT FRIDAY ZOOM MEETINGS, PLEASE

EMAIL: Kathleen.Pursell@dhs.arkansas.gov or call 866-726-2916. We will need your email address or phone number to send you the link.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!

NBC NIGHTLY NEWS video about Pandemic Relief Assistance fraud. The SMP program is mentioned at the end.

Watch here:

<https://www.nbcnews.com/nightly-news/video/justice-department-prosecuting-massive-pandemic-relief-fraud-our-work-is-far-from-over-137262149628>

Report Medicare **FRAUD** AR SMP 866-726-2916

ATTENTION!

DIAL 988

Suicide Prevention Lifeline

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is updating the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline number on July 16, 2022. The new National Suicide Prevention Lifeline number will be **988**. Similar to the National 911 System, the new Lifeline number (988) will be easy to remember and to dial. Until July 16, 2022, you can reach the Lifeline at **1-800-273-TALK (8255)**.

Common Scams

For a list of common scams, go to the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) website:

<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/scam-alerts>



www.facebook.com/arsmtp
www.Facebook.com/Medicare

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

AANHRR—AR Advocates for Nursing Home Residents **501-548-8423**
AFMC—AR Foundation for Medical Care **1-888-354-9100**
Area Agency on Aging **1-800-986-3505**
AG-Attorney General (Consmr Prot Div) **1-800-482-8982**
AG Medicaid Fraud Hotline **1-866-810-0016**
APS—Adult Protective Services (DHS) **1-800-482-8049**
Alzheimer's Arkansas **501-224-0021**
Arkansas Rehabilitation Services **1-800-981-4463**
AR SMP (Healthcare Fraud Complaints) **1-866-726-2916**
Better Business Bureau (BBB) **501-664-7274**
CareLink (Pulaski Co) **501-372-5300**
CMS—(Medicare)—(Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services)
(1-800MEDICARE) **1-800-633-4227**
Community Health Centers of AR **1-877-666-2422**
Coordination of Benefits **1-855-798-2627**
DHS (Customer Assistance Unit) **1-800-482-8988**
DHS Resource Center **1-866-801-3435**
Do Not Call Registry **1-888-382-1222**
Elder Care Locator **1-800-677-1116**
El Dorado RSVP **1-870-864-7080**
Federal Trade Commission
Report STOLEN IDENTITY **1-877-438-4338**
ICan—Increasing Capabilities Access Network **501-666-8868**
KEPRO -AR QIO(Quality Improvmnt Org.) **1-844-430-9504**
LGBT Elder Hotline **888-234-SAGE**
Medicaid—(Claims Unit) **1-800-482-5431**
Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) **1-855-527-6644**
MEDICARE (CMS 1-800MEDICARE) **1-800-633-4227**
Medicare Part D **1-877-772-3379**
Medicare Rights Center **1-800-333-4114**
Mid-Delta Community Consortium **1-870-407-9000**
Oaklawn Foundation/Center on Aging **501-623-0020**
OIG-Nat'l Medicare Fraud Hotline **1-800-HHS-TIPS**
(OIG) Office of Inspector General **1-800-447-8477**
OLTC—Office of Long Term Care **1-800-LTC-4887**
OLTC—Abuse Complaint Section **501-682-8430**
Ombudsman—State Ofc of Long Term Care **501-682-8952**
Resource Center (ADRC) **1-866-801-3435**
(DHS'S Choices in Living Resource Center)
RSVP of Central Arkansas **501-897-0793**
SHIP (Senior Health Ins. Info Program) **1-800-224-6330**
SMP Locator—(locate an SMP outside AR) **1-877-808-2468**
SSA (Social Security Administration) **1-800-772-1213**
Little Rock Office **1-866-593-0933**
SSA Fraud Hotline **1-800-269-0271**
South Central Center on Aging **1-866-895-2795**
South East AR Center on Aging **1-870-673-8584**
Texarkana Regional Center on Aging **1-870-773-2030**
Tri-County Rural Health Network **1-870-338-8900**
UALR Senior Justice Center **501-683-7153**
UofA Cooperative Extension Service **501-671-2000**

HELPFUL WEBSITES:

ADRC—AR Aging & Disability Resource Center (DHS)—
www.choicesinliving.ar.gov/
AR Advocates for Nursing Home Residents
(AANHRR)—www.aanhr.org; e-mail: Info@aanhr.org
AR Long Term Care Ombudsman Program—
www.arombudsman.com
Arkansas Aging Initiative—<http://aging.uams.edu/?id=4605&sid=6>
Arkansas Attorney General—www.arkansasag.gov
Arkansas Attorney General Consumer Protection Division—e-mail: consumer@ag.state.ar.us
Area Agencies on Aging—www.daas.ar.gov/aaamap.html
Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care—www.afmc.org
Arkansas SMP—www.ar.gov/smp
BBB (Better Business Bureau)—scams and alerts—
<https://www.bbb.org/scamtracker/arkansas/>
CMS (Medicare) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services—
www.cms.hhs.gov
Do Not Call—www.donotcall.gov
Do Not Mail—www.DMAchoice.org
Elder Tree / Spinsterhaven—Spinsterhaven@gmail.com
Elder Care Locator—www.eldercare.gov
H.E.A.T—www.stopmedicarefraud.gov/
(Healthcare Fraud Prevention and Enforcement Action Team)
LGBT—National Resource Center on LGBT Aging
<https://www.lgbtagingcenter.org/about/updatesProcess.cfm>
MEDICAID—www.Medicaid.gov
MEDICAID INSPECTOR GENERAL (OMIG)—
<http://omig.arkansas.gov/fraud-form>
MEDICARE—www.medicare.gov
Medicare Interactive Counselor—
www.medicareinteractive.org
Hospital Compare—www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov
MyMedicare.gov—www.mymedicare.gov
(Access to your personal Medicare claims information)
MyMedicareMatters.org (National Council on Aging)
Office of Long Term Care—[http://](http://humanservices.arkansas.gov/dms/Pages/oltcHome.aspx)
humanservices.arkansas.gov/dms/Pages/oltcHome.aspx
Office of Inspector General (OIG)—email:
HHSTips@oig.hhs.gov
Pharmaceutical Assistance Program—
medicare.gov/pap/index.asp
Physician Compare—www.medicare.gov/find-a-doctor
AR SHIP—<https://insurance.arkansas.gov/pages/consumer-services/senior-health/>
SMP Locator—SMPResource.org (locate an SMP outside of AR)
Social Security Administration (SSA)—www.ssa.gov
SSA OIG—Report SS Fraud—<https://oig.ssa.gov/report>
TAP—www.arsinfo.org (Telecommunications Access Program)
UofA Cooperative Extension Service—www.uaex.edu

SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL (SMP) MISSION

“To empower and assist Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers to prevent, detect, and report health care fraud, error, and abuse through outreach, counseling, and education.”



TO PREVENT HEALTHCARE FRAUD—

Protect Personal Information

- * Treat Medicare/Medicaid and Social Security numbers like credit card numbers.
- * Remember, Medicare will not call or make personal visits to sell anything!
- * READ and SAVE Medicare Summary Notices (MSN) and Part D Explanation of benefits (EOB), but **shred** before discarding.

Detect Errors, Fraud, and Abuse

- * Always review MSN and EOB for mistakes.
- * Compare them with your Personal Health Care Journal.
- * Visit **www.mymedicare.gov** to access your personal account online to look for charges for something you did not get, billing for the same thing more than once, and services that were not ordered and/or you never received.

Report Mistakes or Questions

- * If you suspect errors, fraud, or abuse, report it immediately! Call your provider or plan **first**.
- * If you are not satisfied with their response, call the Arkansas SMP.

TO RECRUIT & TRAIN VOLUNTEERS—

- * Retired seniors;
- * Retired health-care providers; or
- * Retired professionals, *e.g.*, teachers, accountants, attorneys, investigators, nurses.

To receive the **Arkansas SMP Newsletter** electronically
email: kathleen.pursell@dhs.arkansas.gov

Current and archived newsletters available at:
<https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/divisions-shared-services/aging-adult-behavioral-health-services/reports-publications/#smp-newsletter-archive>

AR SMP PARTNERS

AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP/El Dorado
El Dorado, AR
870-864-7080

AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP/Central AR
Little Rock, AR
501-897-0793

Oaklawn Center on Aging Inc.
Hot Springs, AR
501-623-0020

Spinsterhaven
Fayetteville, AR
Spinsterhaven@gmail.com

Tri County Rural Health Network
Helena, AR
870-338-8900

Texarkana Regional Center on Aging
Texarkana, AR
870-773-2030

South Central Center on Aging
Pine Bluff, AR
870-879-1440

**AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP/
South East AR Educ Services Coop
Foster Grandparent Program**
Monticello, AR
870-367-4819

**AR State Independent Living Center
(ARSILC)**
Little Rock, AR
501-372-0607



Arkansas Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)

P. O. Box 1437—Slot W241

Little Rock, AR 72203-1437

[Facebook.com/ARSMP](https://www.facebook.com/ARSMP)

Website: www.ar.gov/smp

Report Medicare Fraud, Error & Abuse

Call the Toll-Free **Helpline** 8:00am—4:30pm

1-866-726-2916