HEALTH CARE FRAUD LAWS

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Obtaining Property by False Pretenses*

NCGS § 14-100

In North Carolina, it is a felony to obtain some sort of property through false pretenses. If you knowingly, by means of any kind of false pretense, obtain or attempt to obtain money, goods, property, services or something else of value from anyone else, with the intent to cheat or defraud that person, then you are guilty of a felony.

Violators are guilty of a Class H felony; Class C felony if property is valued at $100,000 or more.

*This law is not specific to health care, but is often prosecuted in conjunction with health care fraud (i.e. false claims, medical assistance provider fraud).

What do those words mean?

False pretense: Behavior intended to deceive others.

Knowingly: A crime that is carried out intentionally and with full awareness.

“What when health care providers cheat the Medicaid program, they’re wasting taxpayer resources and making it harder for those who need care to get it. My office will hold accountable those businesses and people who commit fraud and break the law.”

-Attorney General
Josh Stein