

Brooklyn Physicians Sentenced to 30 Months in Prison

OMIG Investigators Collaborated with Medicare Strike Force

Dr. Boris Sachakov, a Brooklyn-based, board-certified colorectal surgeon who owned and operated a New York medical clinic, was sentenced on December 10 to 30 months in prison for his role in a fraud scheme that billed Medicare and more than ten private insurance companies for surgeries and complex medical procedures that never took place. U.S. District Judge Jack Weinstein handed down the prison term, and also ordered Sachakov to serve three years of supervised release, pay forfeiture of \$1,103,069, and pay restitution of \$1,103,069 to the victims of his crimes, Medicare and numerous private insurance plans.

The case was brought as part of the Medicare Fraud Strike Force, a federal anti-fraud law enforcement effort in which the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) is an active participant. OMIG investigators assisted with the search warrant and the trial preparation for this case. OMIG's participation included investigating, obtaining and reviewing documents, conducting interviews and surveillance, and assisting with the prosecution's witnesses.

A jury found Sachakov guilty on June 13, 2012, after a two-week trial in federal court in Brooklyn. Eleven of Sachakov's patients testified that they had not received surgeries and other medical services for which the physician had billed their insurance companies. After Sachakov was confronted with evidence by two insurance companies about complaints of billings for surgeries that did not occur, he sent letters to his patients, asking them to falsely certify in writing that they had received the phony surgeries. The original indictment charged that Sachakov submitted and caused the submission of more than \$22.6 million in false and fraudulent claims to Medicare and private insurance companies, and received more than \$9 million on those claims.