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How to Report Pharmaceutical Fraud and Receive a Whistleblower Reward

This article outlines how to report pharmaceutical fraud by a drug manufacturer and receive a whistleblower reward.

There are four main type of pharmaceutical fraud by drug companies, and the government is paying significant whistleblower rewards if you report one of these frauds committed by a pharmaceutical drug company.

How to report Pharmaceutical Fraud: Off Label Drug Promotion

The first pharmaceutical fraud scheme consists of off label drug promotion. Basically a pharmaceutical drug company defrauds the government when it receives FDA approval to sell a drug to treat one type of disease or illness but later promotes other unapproved uses to doctors.

DOJ has paid multi-million dollar whistleblower rewards for reporting off label drug promotion by pharmaceutical companies, even if based on even a single drug that's being improperly promoted for off label uses.

For additional information on how to investigate or report off label drug promotion fraud by pharmaceutical companies, read our article entitled: <u>Off Label Drug Promotion by</u>

Pharmaceutical Companies: How to receive a Reward for Reporting Off Label Fraud

How to report Pharmaceutical Fraud: Kickbacks

The second pharmaceutical fraud scheme consists of illegal kickbacks paid by pharmaceutical drug companies to doctors, hospitals, pharmacies, nursing homes and other healthcare providers. Pharmaceutical fraud in the form of kickbacks is more common than you think.

It's illegal for a pharmaceutical drug company to give anything of value as an inducement to buy their drugs. Of course, free samples and minor gifts, such as an inexpensive pen with a logo on it, are not inducements or considered pharmaceutical fraud. However, pharmaceutical drug companies routinely cross the line. Pharmaceutical companies also go to extreme measures to try to hide their illegal kickbacks and fraud. For instance, pharmaceutical drug companies offer to pay doctors to do consulting or do some training.

If you work for a pharmaceutical company and attended meetings where the fraud schemes were discussed or have other inside information on how the pharmaceutical fraud scheme is taking place, you may be eligible for a significant whistleblower reward.

How to report Pharmaceutical Fraud: Medicaid Rebate Fraud

The third pharmaceutical fraud scheme consists of Medicaid Rebate Statute fraud. In essence, a pharmaceutical drug company is required to charge Medicaid the lowest or best price for drugs as the pharmaceutical company charges its best customer. Each quarter a pharmaceutical company must pay Medicaid a rebate of the difference between what Medicaid paid for the drugs and the best price of the drug sold by the pharmaceutical company. The fraud occurs when the pharmaceutical drug company lies about its best price.

If you work for a pharmaceutical company and know it is defrauding the government through Medicaid Rebate fraud, you should know that the government has paid tens-of-millions in rewards to citizens who reported this type of pharmaceutical fraud for even a single drug.

For more information on how to investigate or report Medicaid Rebate fraud by pharmaceutical companies, read our article entitled: <u>Medicaid Rebate Statute Fraud:</u>

How to receive a Reward for Reporting Medicaid Rebate Statute Fraud

How to report Pharmaceutical Fraud: Adulterated Drugs

The fourth largest pharmaceutical fraud scheme consists of adulterated drugs. This is an emerging area of pharmaceutical fraud and the government is asking whistleblowers to step forward and report the fraud.

When the FDA approves a drug for sale in the U.S., it also approves the pharmaceutical company's manufacturing and quality control processes, tests and procedures. A pharmaceutical company defrauds the government when it materially deviates from the manufacturing procedures of controls. Of course, a reward is paid only if this type of pharmaceutical fraud would have the potential to affect the quality of the drug. The FDA is not asking you to point out small errors, but only those that are significant and call into question the safety or performance of the drug.

How to report Pharmaceutical Fraud for a whistleblower reward

If you have specific evidence that a pharmaceutical drug company is defrauding the government, you may be eligible for a significant whistleblower reward for reporting pharmaceutical fraud.

The Hesch Firm would be pleased to review in complete confidence your potential pharmaceutical fraud case. You can read on his website his extensive 15-years experience as an attorney working for the Civil Fraud Section of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) in the nationwide *qui tam* reward office and on *qui tam* False Claims Act cases. Mr. Hesch now exclusively represents whistleblowers apply for rewards for reporting fraud against the government.

Visit The Hesch Firm's website at www.HowToReportFraud.com to find out Mr. Hesch can help you answer the question of how to report pharmaceutical fraud and receive a whistleblower reward.