

Eli's Hospice Insider

Hospice News: Lengthy Hospice, GIP Stays Lead To \$3 Million Fraud Settlement

Hope Hospice in Fort Meyers, Florida, will pay \$3.2 million to resolve allegations that it submitted false claims to Medicare, Medicaid, and TRICARE for ineligible beneficiaries, says a **Department of Justice** release.



"From July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2016, Hope Hospice billed Medicare for four or more years of hospice care for certain patients who were not terminally ill for at least a portion of their greater than four year hospice stay," the DOJ alleges. Hope Hospice also admitted to billing for unwarranted General Inpatient (GIP) stays, sometimes as long as two weeks, according to the feds.

Hope Hospice, which is owned by nonprofit parent **Hope Healthcare**, will also enter into a Corporate Integrity Agreement with the **HHS Office of Inspector General**, the DOJ says.