| FILED by KS                                         | D.C. |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------|--|--|--|
| Aug 5, 2021                                         |      |  |  |  |
| ANGELA E. NOB<br>CLERK U.S. DIST.<br>S.D. OF FLA MI | CT.  |  |  |  |

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA 21-20420-CR-KING/BECERRA Case No.

 18 U.S.C. § 1349

 18 U.S.C. § 1347

 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(7)

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

ANGEL PIMENTEL,

Defendant.

# **INDICTMENT**

The Grand Jury charges that:

#### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

At all times relevant to this Indictment:

#### **The Medicare Program**

1. The Medicare Program (Medicare) was a federal program that provided free or below-cost health care benefits to certain individuals, primarily the elderly, blind, and disabled. Medicare was administered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), a federal agency under the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Individuals who received benefits under Medicare were commonly referred to as Medicare "beneficiaries."

2. The Medicare program was divided into different "parts." Part D of Medicare subsidized the costs of prescription drugs for Medicare beneficiaries in the United States.

3. In order to receive Part D benefits, a beneficiary must be enrolled in a Medicare drug plan. Medicare drug plans were operated by private companies approved by Medicare. Those companies were often referred to as drug plan sponsors. A beneficiary in a Medicare drug

plan could fill a prescription at a pharmacy and use his or her plan to pay for some or all of the prescription.

4. A pharmacy could participate in Part D by entering a retail network agreement with one or more Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBM). Each PBM acted on behalf of one or more Medicare drug plans. Through a plan's PBM, a pharmacy could join the plan's network. When a Part D beneficiary presented a prescription to a pharmacy, the pharmacy submitted a claim to the PBM that represented the beneficiary's Medicare drug plan. The plan or PBM determined whether the pharmacy was entitled to payment for each claim and periodically paid the pharmacy for outstanding claims. The drug plan's sponsor reimbursed the PBM for its payments to the pharmacy.

5. To obtain payment from a PBM, pharmacies typically submitted claims electronically via the internet. The claim required certain important information, including: (a) the beneficiary's name and Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN) or other identification number; (b) a description of the health care benefit, item, or service that was provided or supplied to the beneficiary; (c) the billing codes for the benefit, item, or service; (d) the date upon which the benefit, item, or service was provided or supplied to the beneficiary; and (e) the name of the referring physician or other health care provider, as well as a unique identifying number, known either as the Unique Physician Identification Number (UPIN) or National Provider Identifier (NPI).

6. When a pharmacy submitted a claim to a PBM, the pharmacy certified that the contents of the claim were true, correct, complete, and that the claim was prepared in compliance with the laws and regulations governing the Medicare program. The submitting pharmacy also certified that the prescription drugs being billed were prescribed and were in fact provided as

billed.

7. Medicare and Medicare drug plan sponsors were "health care benefit program[s]," as defined by Title 18, United States Code, Section 24(b).

#### **Defendant and a Related Entity**

8. Maggy Pharmacy Discount, Inc. (Maggy Pharmacy) was a Florida corporation, located at 1255 W 46th Street, Store 5, Hialeah, Florida, that did business in Miami-Dade County purportedly providing prescription drugs to Medicare beneficiaries.

9. Defendant ANGEL PIMENTEL, a resident of Miami-Dade County, was a beneficial owner of Maggy Pharmacy.

# <u>COUNT 1</u> Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud and Wire Fraud (18 U.S.C. § 1349)

1. The General Allegations section of this Indictment is re-alleged and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

2. From in or around March of 2015, through in or around April of 2019, in Miami-Dade County, in the Southern District of Florida, and elsewhere, the defendant,

#### ANGEL PIMENTEL,

did willfully, that is, with the intent to further the objects of the conspiracy, and knowingly combine, conspire, confederate and agree with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to commit offenses against the United States, that is:

a. to knowingly and willfully execute a scheme and artifice to defraud a health care benefit program affecting commerce, as defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 24(b), that is, Medicare and Medicare drug plan sponsors, and to obtain, by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, money and property owned by, and

under the custody and control of, said health care benefit programs, in connection with the delivery of and payment for health care benefits, items, and services, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1347; and

b. to knowingly and with the intent to defraud, devise and intend to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud and for obtaining money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, knowing the pretenses, representations, and promises were false and fraudulent when made, and for the purpose of executing the scheme and artifice, did knowingly transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce, certain writings, signs, signals, pictures and sounds, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

#### Purpose of the Conspiracy

3. It was the purpose of the conspiracy for the defendant and his co-conspirators to unlawfully enrich themselves by, among other things: (a) submitting and causing the submission of false and fraudulent claims to health care benefit programs; (b) concealing the submission of false and fraudulent claims to health care benefit programs; (c) concealing the receipt of the fraud proceeds; and (d) diverting the fraud proceeds for their personal use and benefit, and the use and benefit of others, and to further the fraud.

#### Manner and Means of the Conspiracy

The manner and means by which the defendant and his co-conspirators sought to accomplish the objects and purpose of the conspiracy included, among others, the following:

4. **ANGEL PIMENTEL** installed nominal owners to conceal his true ownership interest in Maggy Pharmacy.

5. **ANGEL PIMENTEL** and others paid, and caused to be paid, kickbacks to patient recruiters for referring Medicare beneficiaries and their prescriptions to Maggy Pharmacy.

6. **ANGEL PIMENTEL** and others submitted and caused the submission of claims, via interstate wire communication, which falsely and fraudulently represented that various health care benefits, primarily prescription drugs, were medically necessary, prescribed by a doctor, and had been provided by Maggy Pharmacy to Medicare beneficiaries.

7. As a result of such false and fraudulent claims, Medicare prescription drug plan sponsors, through their PBM's, made over-payments funded by Medicare to Maggy Pharmacy in the approximate amount of at least \$988,983.

8. **ANGEL PIMENTEL** and others used the proceeds of the health care fraud for their personal use and benefit, the use and benefit of others, and to further the fraud.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349.

# <u>COUNTS 2-4</u> Health Care Fraud (18 U.S.C. § 1347)

1. The General Allegations section of this Indictment is realleged and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

2. From in or around March of 2015, through in or around April of 2019, in Miami-Dade County, in the Southern District of Florida, and elsewhere, the defendant,

#### ANGEL PIMENTEL,

in connection with the delivery of and payment for health care benefits, items, and services, did knowingly and willfully execute, and attempt to execute, a scheme and artifice to defraud a health care benefit program affecting commerce, as defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 24(b), that is, Medicare and Medicare drug plan sponsors, and to obtain, by means of materially

false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, money and property owned by, and under the custody and control of said health care benefit programs.

#### Purpose of the Scheme and Artifice

3. It was a purpose of the scheme and artifice for the defendant and his accomplices to unlawfully enrich themselves by, among other things: (a) submitting and causing the submission of false and fraudulent claims to health care benefit programs; (b) concealing the submission of false and fraudulent claims to health care benefit programs; (c) concealing the receipt of the fraud proceeds; and (d) diverting the fraud proceeds for their personal use and benefit, and the use and benefit of others, and to further the fraud.

#### **The Scheme and Artifice**

4. The Manner and Means section of Count 1 of this Indictment is re-alleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein as a description of the scheme and artifice.

#### Acts in Execution or Attempted Execution of the Scheme and Artifice

5. On or about the dates set forth below, in Miami-Dade County, in the Southern District of Florida, and elsewhere, the defendant, **ANGEL PIMENTEL**, did knowingly and willfully execute, and attempt to execute, the above-described scheme and artifice to defraud, in that the defendant submitted and caused the submission of false and fraudulent claims seeking the identified dollar amounts, and representing that Maggy Pharmacy provided pharmaceutical items and services to Medicare beneficiaries pursuant to physicians' orders and prescriptions, as set forth below:

| Count | Medicare<br>Beneficiary | Approx.<br>Date of<br>Claim | Claim Number | Item Claimed; Approx. Amount<br>Claimed |
|-------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 2     | R.D.                    | 03/30/2017                  | 63828108398  | Budesonide; \$1,272                     |
| 3     | D.H.                    | 04/26/2017                  | 64535229197  | Latuda; \$1,651                         |
| 4     | D.B.                    | 04/09/2018                  | 77178412920  | Lyrica; \$716                           |

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1347 and 2.

### FORFEITURE (18 U.S.C. § 982)

1. The allegations contained in this Indictment are hereby re-alleged and by this reference fully incorporated herein for the purpose of alleging forfeiture to the United States of certain property in which the defendant, **ANGEL PIMENTEL**, has an interest.

2. Upon conviction of a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1347 or 1349, as alleged in this Indictment, the defendant shall forfeit to the United States any property, real or personal, that constitutes or is derived, directly or indirectly, from gross proceeds traceable to the commission of the offense, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(7).

3. The property subject to forfeiture as a result of the alleged offenses includes, but is not limited to, a sum of \$988,983 in United States currency, which amount is equal to the gross proceeds traceable to the commission of the violations alleged in this Indictment and which may be sought as a forfeiture money judgment.

4. If any of the property subject to forfeiture, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

(a) cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;

(b) has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with a third party;

(c) has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;

- (d) has been substantially diminished in value; or
- (e) has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided without difficulty;

the United States shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property under the provisions of Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p).

All pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(7); and the procedures set forth at Title 21, United States Code, Section 853, as made applicable by Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b)(1).

## A TRUE BILL

FOREPERSON

**GONZALEZ** TING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

CHRISTOPHER J. CLARK ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA                                                                                                                                                                                                           | CASE NO                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| v.<br>ANGEL PIMENTEL,<br>Defendant/                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>CERTIFICATE OF TRIAL ATTORNEY*</b><br>Superseding Case Information:                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                         |
| Court Division: (Select One)<br>✓Miami Key West FTL<br>WPB FTP                                                                                                                                                                     | New defendant(s) Yes No<br>Number of new defendants<br>Total number of counts                                           |
| 1. I have carefully considered the allegations of witnesses and the legal complexities of the l                                                                                                                                    | of the indictment, the number of defendants, the number of probable indictment/Information attached hereto.             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | this statement will be relied upon by the Judges of this Court in nal trials under the mandate of the Speedy Trial Act, |
| 3. Interpreter: (Yes or No) Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                    | /                                                                                                                       |
| List language and/or dialect SPANISH                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                         |
| 4. This case will take 5 days for the partic                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                         |
| 5. Please check appropriate category and type                                                                                                                                                                                      | -                                                                                                                       |
| (Check only one)         I       0 to 5 days         II       6 to 10 days         III       11 to 20 days         IV       21 to 60 days         V       61 days and over                                                         | (Check only one)         Petty         Minor         Misdemeanor         Felony                                         |
| 6. Has this case previously been filed in this D                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                         |
| (Attach copy of dispositive order)<br>Has a complaint been filed in this matter? (<br>If yes: Magistrate Case No<br>Related miscellaneous numbers:<br>Defendant(s) in federal custody as of<br>Defendant(s) in state custody as of |                                                                                                                         |
| Rule 20 from the District of Florida                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                         |
| Is this a potential death penalty case? (Yes of 7. Does this case originate from a matter pend August 9, 2013 (Mag. Judge Alicia O. Valle                                                                                          | ing in the Central Region of the U.S. Attorney's Office prior to                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | ing in the Northern Region of the U.S. Attorney's Office prior to                                                       |
| <ol> <li>Does this case originate from a matter pend<br/>October 3, 2019 (Mag. Judge Jared Strauss)</li> </ol>                                                                                                                     | ing in the Central Region of the U.S. Attorney's Office prior to<br>? (Yes or No) <b>No</b>                             |

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

# PENALTY SHEET

| Defendant's Name: <u>ANGEL PIME</u>     | NTEL                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Case No:                                |                                                           |
| Count #: 1                              |                                                           |
| Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fra    | and wire Frand                                            |
|                                         |                                                           |
| Title 18, United States Code, Section 1 |                                                           |
| *Max. Penalty: Twenty (20) Ye           | ars Imprisonment                                          |
| Counts #: 2-4                           |                                                           |
| Health Care Fraud                       |                                                           |
| Title 18, United States Code, Section 1 | 1347                                                      |
| *Max. Penalty: Ten (10) Years I         | A                                                         |
| *Refers only to possible term of inc    | arceration, does not include possible fines, restitution, |

special assessments, parole terms, or forfeitures that may be applicable.

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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA 21-20420-CR-KING/BECERRA CASE NO.

# IN RE SEALED INDICTMENT

### **MOTION TO SEAL**

NOW COMES the United States of America, by and through its undersigned attorney, and respectfully requests that the Indictment, arrest warrant, and any resulting order be SEALED until the arrest of the defendant or until further order of this court, excepting the United States Attorney's Office and any other relevant law enforcement agency which may obtain copies of any Indictment, arrest warrant, or other sealed document for purposes of arrest, extradition, or any other necessary cause, for the reason that the named defendant may flee, the integrity of the ongoing investigation might be compromised, and the safety of certain witnesses could be compromised should knowledge of this indictment become public. Should further information be required, the United States is prepared to respond *in camera*.

Respectfully submitted,

JUAN ANTONIO GONZALEZ ACTING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

By:

an that:

Christopher J. Glark Assistant United States Attorney Florida Bar No. 588040 99 Northeast 4th Street, 4th Floor Miami, Florida 33132-2111 Tel: (305) 961-9167 Fax: (305) 536-6168 Christopher.clark@usdoj.gov

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA 21-20420-CR-KING/BECERRA CASE NO.

## IN RE SEALED INDICTMENT

#### SEALED ORDER

The United States of America, having applied to this Court for an Order sealing the Indictment, the arrest warrant and this Order, and the Court finding good cause:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Indictment, arrest warrant and Sealed Order shall be filed under seal until the arrest of the defendant or until further order of this Court, however, the United States Attorney's Office may notify any retained attorney of the defendant. In addition, the United States Attorney's Office and any relevant law enforcement agency may obtain copies of the indictment or any other sealed documents for any other necessary cause.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers at Miami, Florida, this  $5^{n}$  day of August, 2021.

US LISETTE M. REID UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

cc: Christopher J. Clark, AUSA