



Recent Fraud Cases

MIAA Anti-Fraud Update

June 2023

Nurse prosecuted for fraud in 2020, struck off by NMC

In 2020, we reported a successful prosecution of a nurse who admitted a series of frauds against a NW health body in order to feed an addiction to painkillers. [This was reported in the media at the time.](#)

We can now update that case and advise that a panel from the Nursing and Midwifery Council met on the 1-3 February 2023 and the 20 February 2023 and made the decision to strike her off the register following a debate on her fitness to practice. This individual will never be able to work as a qualified nurse again.



NHSCFA investigation results in guilty plea

Thanks to the weight of evidence presented by the NHSCFA investigation team at the hearing, Thomas Elrick had no option but to plead guilty to committing fraud.

He admitted to setting up a ghost company, 'Tree of Andre Therapy Services Limited', some months after he began his contract with Harrow CCG in 2017 as the Assistant Managing Director for Planned and Unscheduled Care. He registered the company on-line in the name of his husband but was adamant that his husband had no knowledge his name, or that his father's address in Scotland, had been used.

He authorised invoices on behalf of Harrow CCG that had been submitted for payment by 'Tree of Andre' totalling £564,484.80. These were paid into a bank account registered to himself. He was the sole approver for all invoices submitted, and no services were delivered, or work conducted, for the CCG by that company.

Elrick stated that he knew what he was doing was dishonest and that he committed the fraud purely for financial gain. The money defrauded was used to enjoy the lifestyle he had become accustomed to and that he wanted more. The fraud had become an addiction and he was aware that he would be caught.

Sentencing is at Harrow Crown Court on June 8th where it is extremely likely that Mr Elrick will receive a lengthy prison sentence. We will provide an update on the sentencing outcome in due course.



Two men found guilty of fraud and bribery against the NHS

At St Albans Crown Court, two men were recently found guilty of Theft, Fraud and Bribery Act offences against the NHS following a seven-week trial. A third man had entered a guilty plea prior to the trial commencing. The investigation was undertaken by the NHS Counter Fraud Authority, with the prosecution led by the Crown Prosecution Service, with the total value of all offences being more than £600,000.

Hasan Abusheikha, (47) formerly a Theatre Manager at St Albans City Hospital Trust, was found guilty of offences under the Theft, Fraud and Bribery Acts. He was sentenced to 11 years imprisonment on 24th May 2023. A confiscation hearing will take place at a later date.

Elmo Emanuel, who was Chief Executive Officer of Implants International and Xtremity Solutions Ltd (both of which were companies supplying medical equipment to the Hospital) was found guilty of one charge of bribing Abusheikha. Emanuel was sentenced to 28 months jail.

A second Trust supplier, Jawid Khan, a Director of TSI Med Ltd, had already pleaded guilty to one charge of bribing Abusheikha prior to the trial opening. He was handed an 18-month suspended sentence and must carry out 200 hours of unpaid work.

Sentencing Abusheikha, Judge Lana Wood said: *"The earning of commission was your primary objective. Your primary concern should have been the best interests of the Trust."*



Birmingham City council employee dismissed for working secret full-time NHS job

A Birmingham City Council employee was dismissed after the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) discovered they were working a second full-time job in the NHS. The local authority is seeking to recover £16,000 paid in wages to the staff member, who had been working from home during the fraud. At one point they claimed to be sick to one of their employers - while continuing to work for the other.

It is understood the council worker had been identified by payroll data as they were liable to pay tax on the two full-time roles.



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