

US Department of Health and Human Services Exclusion Program

Thomas Sowinski
Special Agent in Charge/
Reviewing Official



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Overview

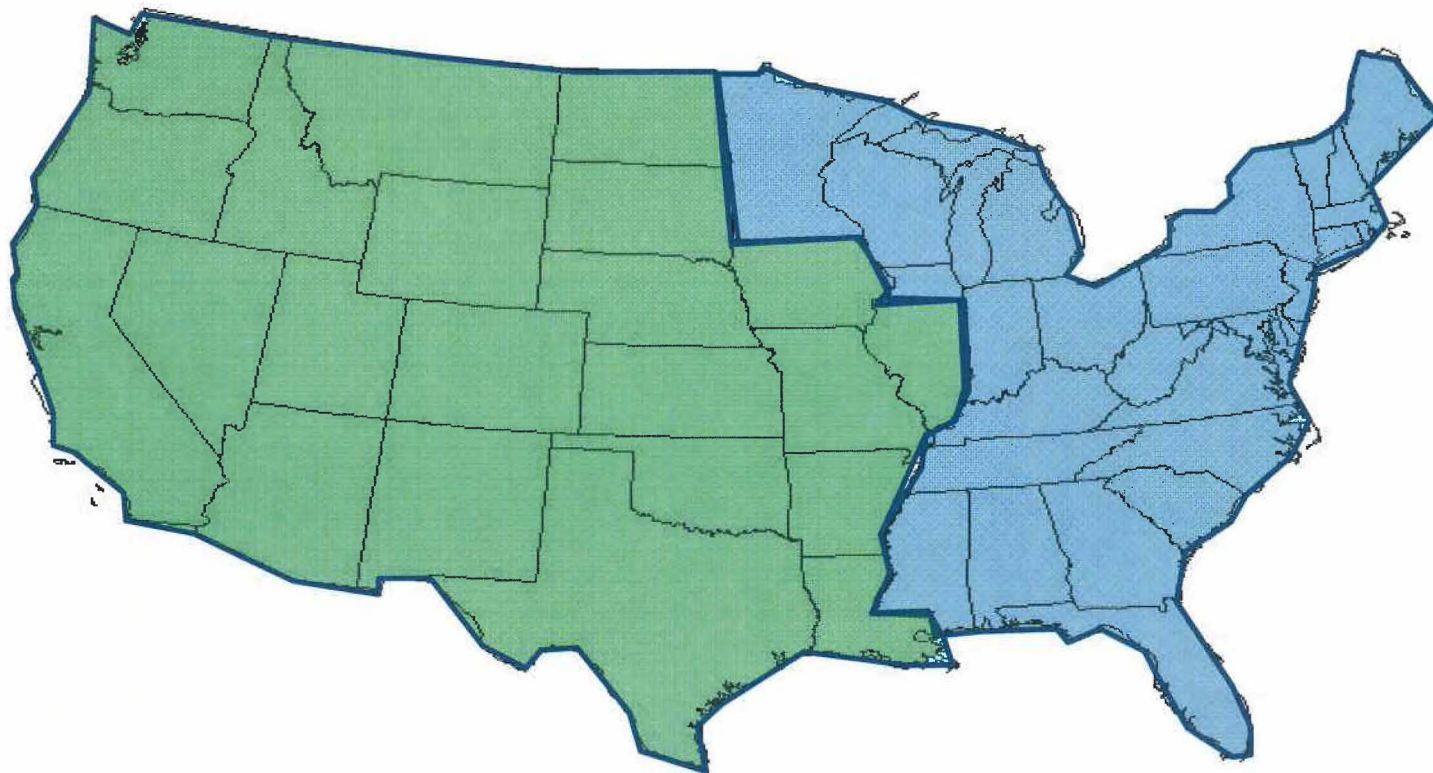
- Authority to exclude individuals and entities from Federal Health Care Programs
 - Medicare
 - Medicaid
 - Any other plan/program funded directly or indirectly by the United States government.
- Does not affect a person's rights to receive program benefits
- Remedial, not punitive
- Over 51,000 individuals currently excluded



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Exclusion Regional Boundaries



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Authorities

- Social Security Act, Sections 1128 and 1156
- Mandatory – Convictions
 - Health care fraud
 - Patient abuse
 - Theft – Health care related
 - Drug distribution
- Permissive – Other
 - Board actions – Performance, Competency, Financial Integrity
 - Relationship with an excluded entity



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Sources

- Law enforcement
- State and local governments
- State boards
- Media
- Congress



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Process

- Analyst receives a referral for exclusion
- Investigations
 - Identify appropriate authority
 - Verifies data
 - Mails notice of intention to exclude (30 days)
- Submits case to supervisor for review
- Determination by Reviewing Official
- Final actions – Publish to website/close



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Needed Documentation

- Transmission of referral within 30 days of sentencing (see MFCU Performance Standard 8.F)
- Conviction-based referrals
 - Final judgment order
 - Charging documents
 - Plea agreements
 - Summary of the case
 - Point of contact



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Reinstatement

- Not automatic
- Requires the provider to apply for reinstatement
- Assessment for further actions?



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Contact Information

HHS/OIG/OI

Exclusions Branch

PO Box 23871

Washington, DC 20026

Phone: 202-691-2311

Fax: 202-691-22980

Email: sanction@oig.hhs.gov



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Referral POCs

- DHHS/OIG/OI- Exclusion Staff

Boston Regional Office

JFK Federal Building, Room 2475, Boston, MA 02203

Telephone: 617-565-2664

Responsible for: Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire,
Connecticut, Vermont, Rhode Island



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Referrals (continued)

- DHHS/OIG/OI-Exclusion Staff

New York Regional Office

26 Federal Plaza, Room 13-124, New York, NY 10278

Telephone: 212-264-1691

Responsible for: New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico



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Referrals (continued)

- DHHS/OIG/OI-Exclusion Staff
Philadelphia Regional Office
150 South Independence Mall West, Suite 329,
Philadelphia, PA 19106
Telephone: 215-861-4586

Responsible for: District of Columbia, Pennsylvania,
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia



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Referrals (continued)

- DHHS/OIG/OI-Exclusion Staff

Atlanta Regional Office

61 Forsyth Street, Suite 5T18, Atlanta, GA 30303

Telephone: 404-562-7603

Responsible for: Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina,
South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi



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Referrals (continued)

- DHHS/OIG/OI-Exclusion Staff

Miami Regional Office

c/o DHHS/OIG/OI, Attn: Exclusions, PO Box 23871,
Washington, DC 20026

Telephone: 202-691-2311

Responsible for: Florida



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Referrals (continued)

- DHHS/OIG/OI-Exclusion Staff
Chicago Regional Office
233 North Michigan Ave, Suite 1330, Chicago, IL 60601
Telephone: 312-353-2740

Responsible for: Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois
(Northern District), Wisconsin, Minnesota



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Referrals (continued)

- DHHS/OIG/OI-Exclusion Staff

Kansas City Regional Office

c/o DHHS/OIG/OI, Attn: Exclusions, PO Box 23871,
Washington, DC 20026

Telephone: 202-691-2311

Responsible for: Iowa, Illinois (Southern, Central Districts), Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado



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Referrals (continued)

- DHHS/OIG/OI-Exclusion Staff

Dallas Regional Office

1100 Commerce St, Room 629, Dallas, TX 75242

Telephone: 214-767-8406

Responsible for: Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma,
New Mexico



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Referrals (continued)

- DHHS/OIG/OI-Exclusion Staff
San Francisco Regional Office
1855 Gateway Blvd, Suite 585, Concord, CA 94520
Telephone: 925-356-7558

Responsible for: Washington, Idaho, Oregon, California
(Northern, Eastern, Central Districts), Alaska



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Referrals (continued)

- DHHS/OIG/OI-Exclusion Staff

Los Angeles Regional Office

600 West Santa Ana Blvd, Ste 1100, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Telephone: 714-246-8302

Responsible for: Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii, California
(Southern District)



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Questions?