

The Office of Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DOD), announced today that on December 14, 2000, a civil complaint was filed in U.S. District Court, Springfield, MO, against Dr. Forrest H. Braack, a clinical psychologist practicing in Waynesville, MO. Forrest H. Braack, Ph.D., P.C. and the Forrest Family Institute are the businesses that Braack operates in Waynesville, MO and were also named in the civil complaint. The four-count complaint charges Braack violated the Federal False Claims Act by submitting false and fraudulent claims to Government funded insurance programs including, Tricare, Medicare and the State of Missouri Medicaid program.

The civil complaint charges Braack, through the operation of his corporations, unjustly enriched himself by submitting claims for services that he knew to be false. The alleged schemes included billing for services to patients who were out town, billing as if he personally provided services when the services were actually provided by unlicensed medical personnel, and billing as though he personally provided services to patients when, in fact, Braack was actually hospitalized himself.

If convicted, Braack and his companies could be liable for a \$10,000 fine, plus treble damages, on each false claim. The U.S. Attorneys Office decided to not include the specific number of false claims or potential treble damage amounts in the complaint. The specific claims will be communicated to Braack's attorney in written form at the time the civil complaint is served.