

False Claims. Vendor acknowledges that Tuomey Healthcare System (THS) has provided it with information relative to the False Claims Act (FCA): This includes but is not limited to the following: The FCA imposes civil liability on any person or entity that knowingly submits, or causes to be submitted, a false or fraudulent claim for payment to the U.S. government. The FCA also prohibits knowingly making or using (or causing to be made or used) false records or statements in order to get a false or fraudulent claim paid by the federal government.

Enforcement and Penalties

Under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733, those who knowingly submit, or cause another person or entity to submit, false claims for payment of government funds are liable for three times the government's damages plus civil penalties of \$5,500 to \$11,000 per false claim. Other possible enforcement actions include suspension of payment, referral to the Office of Inspector General for potential exclusion from the program, or disenrollment.

Reporting

Information regarding a potential false claims violation should be reported to the THS Corporate Integrity Officer at 804-774-9500 or anonymously to the THS hotline at 1-888-398-2633.

Under the FCA, persons may file a *qui tam* or whistleblower lawsuit against an individual or entity on behalf of themselves and the government. The person filing the lawsuit is protected against discharge, demotion, suspension, threats, harassment, and discrimination related to such lawsuit. Acts in violation of these protections may entitle the employee to reinstatement with seniority, double back pay, interest on back pay, compensation for discriminatory treatment, reasonable attorney's fees, and other litigation costs.