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ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN CHARGES HOME HEALTH CARE BUSINESS OPERATOR WITH TAX FRAUD

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today announced charges against the operator of a south suburban home health care business for defrauding the state out of over \$200,000 in employee tax withholdings.

Reginaldo Sulit, 48, of Chicago, was charged with theft of government funds and income tax fraud in his position as an officer and shareholder of Alliance Home Healthcare in Worth, Ill. Sulit was arraigned this week in Cook County Criminal Court.

Madigan alleged that between June 2013 and September 2016, Sulit withheld money designated for employee income taxes from Alliance Home Healthcare employees' paychecks without remitting the taxes to the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR). Madigan alleged Sulit stole over \$203,900 through his scheme.

"This man is not a legitimate businessman but a thief," Madigan said. "These charges will hold him accountable for stealing from his employees and defrauding the state."

The charges follow an earlier lawsuit brought by the U.S. Department of Labor against Sulit and his mother, Dr. Dalisay Sulit, for stealing money from an employee profit-sharing fund that was intended to benefit employees working for Alliance Home Healthcare. A federal court judge ruled in the Department of Labor's favor and ordered both Sulits to repay \$1.6 million to the employees. Reginaldo Sulit is currently facing a federal criminal indictment related to that scheme, in which he is alleged to have used his responsibility for maintaining the employee retirement fund to cash checks for his own profit.

Dr. Sulit started Alliance Home Healthcare in 1994, with Reginaldo Sulit acting as an officer and shareholder. The company at one time employed approximately 110 nurses and physical therapists serving patients in Cook, DuPage, Will and Kankakee counties.

The investigation was conducted by the IDOR's Criminal Investigations Division.

"Whenever allegations of tax fraud come to light, it is important that we examine their validity and act accordingly," said Connie Beard, IDOR Director. "I commend the job performed by the Department of Revenue's Criminal Investigations Unit, as well as the work currently being done by the Attorney General's office regarding this matter."

The public is reminded that the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Assistant Attorney General Staphanie Pauly is handling the case for Madigan's Special Prosecutions Bureau.

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