

The Office of Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today that on April 20, 2001, the following were sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Richard Lazarra, Middle District of Florida, Tampa, FL; Community Clinical Laboratory, Inc., Clearwater, FL, James McKeown, Sr., its president and Vincent Gepp, general manager. The sentences were based on guilty pleas entered by all of the defendants for conspiring to defraud the TRICARE and Medicare health care programs by making kickback payments to physicians for patient referrals.

This investigation has resulted in the indictment of 15 doctors. To date, nine of these doctors have been convicted relative to this kickback scheme.

Community Clinical Laboratory, Inc. was sentenced to pay a \$2,400 special assessment fee. James McKeown, Sr. was sentenced to 48 months probation, ordered to pay \$1,253 in restitution and a \$100 special assessment fee. Vincent Gepp was sentenced to 36 months probation, ordered to pay \$145,170 in restitution and a \$100 special assessment fee.