

The Office of Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today that on April 17, 2000, the United States Attorney's Office, Tampa Division, Middle District of Florida filed a seven count civil complaint against Owen McCarthy, M.D., Doroithia E. McCarthy, and Advanced Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine, Inc. (AOSM).

The complaint alleges that the McCarthys and their company, AOSM, filed false and fraudulent claims for reimbursement from the TRICARE program and Medicare for medical expenses related to treatment for surgical and non-surgical billing. Specifically, that the McCarthys developed a scheme to upcode treatment procedures for claims submitted to TRICARE and Medicare.

If convicted of the civil charges, the McCarthys and their company face civil penalties of \$10,000 per count and punitive damages.