

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today that on November 9, 2000, Carol Doggette, owner of Coastal Outpatients Services (COS) of Jacksonville, FL, pled guilty to offering and paying kickbacks and conspiracy before the Honorable District Court Judge Henry J. Schlesinger. Doggette was on trial in the Middle District of Florida, Jacksonville Division, Jacksonville, FL, and changed his plea during trial.

Doggette was earlier indicted on 25 counts including paying and offering kickbacks, and conspiracy to make false claims against the Government. The plea is the result of a multi-agency Federal task force investigation of health care fraud in Northeast Florida. The investigation disclosed that Doggette offered to pay physicians a kickback for patient referrals. COS also billed U.S. Government health care programs for services not rendered.