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PRESS RELEASE

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Three employees of a group home for persons with developmental disabilities sentenced for criminal abuse of a vulnerable adult

Washington, D.C. – Three employees of D.C. Health Care, Inc., a private provider of group homes for developmentally disabled D.C. residents, have been convicted and sentenced for their roles in the physical and verbal abuse of a group home resident under their care, U.S. Attorney Jeffrey A. Taylor and District of Columbia Inspector General Charles J. Willoughby announced today. All three employees were sentenced in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia on July 19, 2007.

Nancy W. Adeyemi, 37, of New Carrollton, Maryland, was found guilty of two counts of criminal abuse of a vulnerable adult by the Honorable Jeanette Clark and sentenced to serve 180 days in jail with all but 60 days suspended for physical abuse, and a consecutive 180 days in jail with all but 40 days suspended for verbal abuse. Robin Michelle Motley, 47, of Oxon Hill, Maryland, was convicted of one count of criminal abuse of a vulnerable adult and sentenced to serve 180 days in jail with all but 40 days suspended for verbal abuse. Marshelia Anita Davis, 49, of Washington, D.C. was convicted of aiding and abetting her co-defendants of verbal abuse and sentenced to 180 days in jail with all but 80 days suspended. In addition, Adeyemi, Motley, and Davis were each sentenced to serve one year of probation, not to work with vulnerable adults, and to stay away from the complaining witness and D.C. Health Care's facilities and programs, and to pay a fine to the Victims of Violent Crime compensation fund.

According to the government's evidence, on October 10, 2006, the victim attended a day treatment program for developmentally disabled persons operated by Capitol Hill Supportive Services in Northeast Washington, D.C. On that day, the victim became frustrated and began to disrobe and scratch herself as she left the day treatment program at approximately 3:45 p.m. Outside the building, a security guard witnessed Adeyemi, a D.C. Health Care employee whose duty was to provide direct care to the victim and other group home residents, attempt to control the victim's behavior by hitting the victim twice on the leg using her hand, while Motley, the van driver, talked on a cellular phone with Davis, the house manager of the group home. When the security guard asked Motley how to assist them, Motley handed the security guard the cellular phone, and Davis instructed the security guard to get a cup of water and threaten to throw the

water on the victim because the victim was afraid of water. Additionally, an employee of the day program heard Motley and Adeyemi curse at and threaten to throw water upon the victim as they attempted to control the victim inside the van. When the employee advised Motley and Adeyemi that they could not throw the water upon the victim, Adeyemi responded that they could still threaten to throw water on the victim. During the incident, the day program employee was given the cellular phone from the security guard, and she also heard Davis say, "Throw the water. Throw the water on her." Finally, a group home resident who was present in the van testified that Motley and Adeyemi had splashed water from a plastic bottle in the van upon the victim.

In announcing these convictions, U.S. Attorney Taylor and Inspector General Willoughby praised the work of Investigator Vantresse McMillan of the Office of the Inspector General Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) for his investigation of the criminal abuse. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Willoughby also commended the work of Assistant U.S. Attorney Sean P. Tonolli for his assistance during the investigation of the abuse, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Todd Gee and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Dangkhua Nguyen of the MFCU, for their prosecution of the case.

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