FRAUD ALERT



Help Stop Scams Involving Substance Use Disorder Treatment

The VA Office of Inspector General (OIG) is investigating allegations that certain drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities or treatment centers are attempting to exploit veterans with substance use disorders for profit through various unethical and illegal practices. Recruiters are targeting veterans to use these facilities, often offering incentives and misrepresenting the services available. The facilities then excessively bill VA for unnecessary or unrendered treatment, despite providing little or no care to these vulnerable individuals. Veterans and VA personnel can help by identifying and reporting these scams.



Veterans should beware of anyone encouraging them to go to a specific (often out-of-state) facility when a closer VA or community option is preferred, particularly if the veteran (or their friends or relatives) are being offered incentives like plane tickets, cash, gift cards, housing, or scholarships. Individuals willing to cover the

veteran's travel costs or provide other perks in order to get the veteran to attend a specific treatment facility may be recruiters receiving compensation without having the veteran's best interests in mind.

VA personnel should report suspected wrongdoing to the VA OIG if they learn that veterans have attended a facility but not received promised services, such as counseling. Also, VA personnel should report any instances in which they are pressured to circumvent procedures to place, admit, or extend veterans' treatments at a specific facility.



- LOCATE A VA SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PROGRAM
- FINDTREATMENT.GOV
- MAKE THE CONNECTION: VETERAN STORIES OF HELP AND HOPE



SUBMIT A COMPLAINT

www.vaoig.gov/hotline 800.488.8244 VA Inspector General Hotline (53H) 810 Vermont Ave, NW Washington, DC 20420



