



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Court Awards State \$606,190 Against Young Adult Institute** *Mental Health Clinic Had Inadequate Medical Director Oversight*

**BALTIMORE, MD (November 1, 2017)** - Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh announced today that the Circuit Court for Baltimore County has awarded the State of Maryland \$606,190.15 in damages against the Young Adult Institute (YAI) for submitting fraudulent Medicaid claims for substandard care provided to mental health patients.

The investigation found that from 2012 to 2015, YAI and its owner, Franklin Ajanaku, failed to have a medical director on-site at the Windsor Mill mental health clinic for the required 20 or more hours per week. A medical director oversees the diagnosis, treatment and medications for mental health patients, as well as trains staff to provide proper care. The investigation revealed that YAI's medical director was present for only an average of six hours per week, calling into question the quality and safety of much of the care paid for by the state Medicaid program during that period. YAI has since ceased operations.

The State sued YAI and Ajanaku in February of 2017, asserting that YAI violated the state False Health Claims Act by obtaining Medicaid payments for substandard, unsupervised mental health care. Ajanaku failed to respond to the lawsuit. On the State's motion, the Court granted default judgment against YAI and Ajanaku and ordered payment of \$606,190.15.

In making today's announcement, Attorney General Frosh thanked the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit for its work on the case, specifically Assistant Attorney General Raja Mishra, Investigators Melinda FitzGerald and Julia Foster, and Auditor Oludolapo Osikomaiya. Attorney General Frosh also thanked the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Office of the Inspector General for its assistance.