

KRISTIN K. MAYES  
Attorney General  
Firm Bar No. 14000

MATTHEW WILLIAMS  
State Bar No. 029059  
HUMBERTO PRECIADO  
State Bar No. 027258  
Assistant Attorney General  
2005 N. Central Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1592  
Telephone 602-542-3881  
crmhcfraud@azag.gov

Attorneys for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA**

STATE OF ARIZONA,  
Plaintiff,

v.

**SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS  
(001)**  
(Counts 1, 2, and 4 - 20),

**CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a.  
CAROL KIRBY (002)**  
(Counts 1, 2, and 4 - 20),

**LAVITA RENE VERSER (003)**  
(Counts 1, 3, and 4 - 20),

**A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER,  
LLC (004)**  
(Counts 4 - 20),

Defendants.

Case No:

**93 SGJ 42**

**INDICTMENT**

CHARGING VIOLATIONS OF:

**COUNT 1: CONSPIRACY**, a Class 2  
Felony, in violation of A.R.S. §13-1003

**COUNT 2: ILLEGAL CONTROL OF AN  
ENTERPRISE**, a Class 3 Felony, in  
violation of A.R.S. §13-2312(A)

**COUNT 3: ILLEGALLY CONDUCTING  
AN ENTERPRISE**, a Class 3 Felony, in  
violation of A.R.S. §13-2312(B)

**COUNT 4: FRAUDULENT SCHEMES  
AND ARTIFICES**, a Class 2 Felony, in  
violation of A.R.S. §13-2310

**COUNTS 5 - 20: THEFT**, as Class 2  
Felonies, in violation of A.R.S. §13-  
1802(A)(3)

The Arizona State Grand Jury accuses **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND, LAVITA RENE VERSER, and A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC** charging on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2023 that in or from Maricopa County, Arizona:

**COUNT 1**

**CONSPIRACY**

On or between December 1, 2021 and February 10, 2023, with the intent to promote or aid the commission of an offense **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, and LAVITA RENE VERSER** agreed with one or more persons that at least one of them or another person will engage in conduct constituting the offenses of:

- **FRAUDULENT SCHEMES AND ARTIFICES**, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-2310, and
- **THEFT**, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-1802

and one of the parties committed an overt act in furtherance of the offenses, including but not limited to the overt acts described in counts 4 - 20 of this indictment (which are incorporated herein by reference), in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1003, 13-2312, 13-2310, 13-2301, 13-2001, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801

**COUNT 2**

**ILLEGAL CONTROL OF AN ENTERPRISE**

On or between December 1, 2021 and February 10, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, and CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY**, through racketeering or its proceeds, acquired or maintained, by investment or otherwise, control of any enterprise. The enterprise(s) include **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, and/or a group of persons associated in fact, including but not limited to **SHAWNJERRIA**

**NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER, and others KNOWN and/or UNKNOWN.**

The racketeering offenses included:

- 1) **A SCHEME OR ARTIFICE TO DEFRAUD**, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-2301(D)(4)(b)(xx);
- 2) **MONEY LAUNDERING**, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-2301(D)(4)(b)(xxvi);
- 3) **THEFT**, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-2301(D)(4)(b)(v); and
- 4) **FORGERY**, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-2301(D)(4)(b)(iv);

The alleged racketeering includes, but is not limited to the acts described in this Indictment (which are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full), in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-2312(A), 13-2310, 13-2301, 13-2001, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

### **COUNT 3**

#### **ILLEGALLY CONDUCTING AN ENTERPRISE**

On or between December 1, 2021 and February 10, 2023, **LAVITA RENE VERSER** did knowingly conduct such enterprise's affairs through racketeering or did knowingly participate directly or indirectly in the racketeering conduct or any enterprise that **LAVITA RENE VERSER** knew was being conducted through racketeering. The enterprise(s) include **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC** and/or a group of persons associated in fact, including but not limited to **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER, and others KNOWN and/or UNKNOWN.**

The racketeering included:

- 1) **A SCHEME OR ARTIFICE TO DEFRAUD**, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-2301(D)(4)(b)(xx);
- 2) **MONEY LAUNDERING**, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-2301(D)(4)(b)(xxvi);

- 3) **THEFT**, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-2301(D)(4)(b)(v); and
- 4) **FORGERY**, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-2301(D)(4)(b)(iv);

The alleged racketeering includes, but is not limited to the acts of racketeering described in this Indictment (which are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full), in violation A.R.S. §§ 13-2312(B), 13-2310, 13-2301, 13-2001, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

#### **COUNT 4**

##### **FRAUDULENT SCHEMES AND ARTIFICES**

On or between December 1, 2021 and February 10, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER and A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, pursuant to a scheme or artifice to defraud, knowingly obtained a benefit (to wit: a financial benefit) by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, promises or material omissions. The value of the financial benefit received was \$100,000 or more, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-2310, 13-2310 (C), 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801

#### **COUNT 5**

##### **THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 27, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER and A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **Bonnie Lewis**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 6**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 27, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER and A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **Elizabeth Cadavas**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 7**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 20, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER and A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **Tasha Matthews**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 8**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 27, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA**

**RENE VERSER** and **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **Jeanine Thundercloud**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 9**

**THEFT**

On or between April 8, 2022 and February 10, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER** and **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **Timothy Lewis**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 10**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 27, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER** and **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **Henrietta Thomas**) with the intent to deprive the victim

(**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 11**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 20, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER and A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **J[REDACTED] W[REDACTED]**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 12**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 20, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER and A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **W[REDACTED] W[REDACTED]**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 13**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 20, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER** and **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **Viandrea Stevens**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 14**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 20, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER** and **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **Robert Marrietta**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 15**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 20, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA**



**RENE VERSER** and **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **C.A.**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 16**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 20, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER** and **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **A.A. 1**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 17**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 20, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER** and **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **A.A. 2**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona**

**Health Care Cost Containment System)** of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 18**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 20, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER** and **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **X.M.**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

**COUNT 19**

**THEFT**

On or between December 1, 2021 and January 20, 2023, **SHAWNJERRIA NISHALLEN LUCAS, CAROL ANN COPELAND a.k.a. CAROL KIRBY, LAVITA RENE VERSER** and **A BETTER YOU WELLNESS CENTER, LLC**, knowingly obtained the service or property of the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) by means of any material misrepresentation (i.e. submitting false billing claims for services purportedly rendered to beneficiary **V.S.**) with the intent to deprive the victim (**The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System**) of such service or property with a value of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, and in an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1802, 13-1802(H), 13-1801, 13-305, 13-303, 13-302, 13-301, 13-701, 13-702 and 13-801.

