

# Understanding Government Audits. Appendix B: HEAT Strike Force FY 2010 Activities

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Each Medicare Strike Force combines data analysis capabilities of CMS and the investigative resources of the FBI and HHS/OIG with the prosecutorial resources of the DOJ Criminal Division, Fraud Section and the USAOs. Strike Force accomplishments from cases prosecuted in all seven cities during FY 2010 include:

- 140 indictments involving charges filed against 284 defendants who collectively billed the Medicare program more than \$590 million;
- 217 guilty pleas negotiated and 19 jury trials litigated, winning guilty verdicts against 23 defendants;
- Imprisonment for 146 defendants sentenced during the fiscal year, averaging more than 40 months of incarceration; and

In the three and a half years since its inception, Strike Force prosecutors filed 465 cases charging 829 defendants who collectively billed the Medicare program more than \$1.9 billion; 481 defendants pleaded guilty and 48 others were convicted in jury trials; and 358 defendants were sentenced to imprisonment for an average term of nearly 44 months.

## Note

1. The accomplishments figures presented in the bullets include all reported Strike Force cases handled by DOJ Criminal Division attorneys and Assistant United States Attorneys in the respective U.S. Attorneys' Offices during FY 2010. During previous fiscal years, the U.S. Attorneys' Offices in the Southern District of Florida and Central District of California implemented the Strike Force model for criminal health care fraud prosecutions. However, Strike Force prosecution statistics from previous years did not include all Strike Force cases because more complete reporting procedures were not in place at that time.

*Source:* The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Justice Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Program Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2010. Available online at <http://oig.hhs.gov/publications/docs/hcfac/hcfacreport2010.pdf>

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