

# Dentists Back Hunt on Medicaid Contact

TYRTLE BEACH, S.C. -- Governor James Hunt's acceptance and approval of the \$1.8 million Medicaid fraud and abuse monitoring contract awarded Electronic Data Systems Federal Corporation (EDS-F) has been supported by the Old North State Dental Society. The society represents approximately 100 lack dentists who have been at odds with the previous Medicaid fraud and abuse contractor, the N. C. Peer Review Foundation.

Responding to an advertisement for EDS-F's bid was \$400,000 less than one submitted by the N. C. Peer Review Foundation.

The Old North State Dental Society's letter to Governor Hunt follows more than fifty letters from doctors asking Hunt to void the EDS-F contract.

Hunt said Thursday that he would take no action to end to contract for which services are to begin July 1, 1979.

The Society's letter to Hunt, signed by Dr. Stanley Fleming, the organization's president, was very critical of the N.C. Peer Review Foundation.

Old North State Dental Society charges included assertions that the N. C. Peer Review Foundation's contract monitoring enforced anti-black, and anti-poor policies toward Medicaid pro-

viders and recipients.

Responding to anti-poor and anti-black bias, the Old North State Dental Society sued the North Carolina Department of Human Resources in 1977 and a consent decree was signed which mandated that the Peer Review Foundation's Fraud investigating committees would be made up of active Medicaid providers. Also the decree called for adequate minority representation on the committees. Dr. Fleming's letter to Hunt contends that the N. C. Peer Review Foundation has not followed the terms of the decree from the Graves vs. Morrow suit.

"The organization, the Old North State Dental Society, feels that many black providers have been dealt with unfairly by the North Carolina Medical Peer Review Foundation," the letter to Hunt read. "There have been investigations of professional providers by non-professional personnel. Through restrictive policies, the Medicaid program has been greatly under utilized."

Letters to Hunt from doctors supporting the N. C. Peer Review Foundation basically argue that a single firm should not be responsible for processing Medicaid claims and monitoring the validity

of those claims. EDS-F also has a contract to process Medicaid claims.

The Peer Review Foundation was created by the N. C. Medical Society in 1973. Members of the N. C. Medical Society, whose members are predominantly white, met with Hunt last week and asked that he reconsider the latter contract.

The Old North State Dental Society in its letter to Hunt further charges that the Peer Review Foundation is tremendously political and that many physicians are using the foundation as a tool for their own advantage."

## Obituaries

### Bessie Hollister

Funeral services for Mrs. Bessie Kimbrough Hollister of 1114 Thurmond Street were held Thursday at 4:00 P.M. from the Castle Heights Church of Christ with Brother Cloys Cecil officiating.

Mrs. Hollister was a dedicated educational, community, civic, and church worker. She was Co-Founder of the first Free Adult Evening School at Paisley School during the early 60's, she was a Co-Girl Scout Leader at the time of her passing she was Registrar of the Paisley Precinct. She was Miss Alumni of W.S.S.U. in 1964 and was a member of the West Winston Civic Council, the Gay 49ers, and the Castle Heights Church of Christ.

She leaves to mourn her loss a husband, Mr. Edgar R. Hollister of the home; a foster daughter, Mrs. Bessie vonne Shipp; two sisters, Mrs. Adalia K. Brown of New York City, and Alderman Dr. Virginia K. Newell of Winston-Salem; two brothers, Dr. L. S. Kimbrough of an Francisco, Calif., and Mr. Henry Lester Kimbrough

of Columbus, Ohio; two brothers-in-law, Mr. Henry Brown and Mr. George F. Newell; three sisters-in-law, Atty. Audrey Kimbrough, Mrs. Ossie Kimbrough, and Mrs. Essie Kimbrough. Interment was held in the family plot in the Redland Church of Christ Cemetery in Davie County, N. C.

Clark S. Brown and Sons Funeral Home was in charge of services.

### Lewico Mason

The funeral services for Mr. Lewico N. Mason, of Apt. 9 Parker Street in Lexington were held Wednesday, June 13, 1:00 p.m., at the Howard-Robinson Chapel in Lexington, N.C., with the Rev. S. F. Hairston officiating.

Mr. Mason was dead on arrival June 6, at the Thomasville General Hospital. He was born in Winston-Salem and had been a resident of Lexington, N. C., for the past 9 years. He was an employee of the Burlington Furniture Company. Mr. Mason was the brother of Mrs. Nettie D. Graham, of 2920 East Gate, Apt. #E., New Walkertown Road. Interment was in the Lexington City Cemetery. Howard-Robinson was in charge of services.



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