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Sober Homes Takedown
United States v. Jonathan Markovich et al. (0:20-MJ-06469-PMH)

Criminal Charges: On or about September 25, 2020, ten defendants were charged by criminal complaint for their alleged participation in conspiracies to commit health care fraud and wire fraud, violate the Eliminating Kickbacks in Recovery Act, and money laundering offenses. Defendant Jonathan Markovich was also charged with bank fraud and false statements to a financial institution for seeking Paycheck Protection Program loans. These defendants are owners, operators, doctors, and patient recruiters for two substance abuse treatment centers in Broward County, Florida: Second Chance Detox, LLC, doing business as Compass Detox ("COMPASS"), a detox and residential inpatient facility, and WAR Network, LLC ("WAR"), a related outpatient program.

Next Proceeding: An arraignment for defendants **Jonathan Markovich, Elan Bakhshi, Richard Waserstein, Daniel Markovich, Jose Santeiro, Andrew Lieberman, Jeffrey Draesel and Francisco Bosch** has been set for **February 10, 2021 at 11:00 AM**. An arraignment for defendant **Mario Kustura** has been set for **February 8, 2021 at 11:00 AM**. An arraignment for defendant **Christopher Garnto** has been set for **February 1, 2021 at 11:00 AM**. All hearings will be held at the United States Courthouse, 299 East Broward Blvd. #108, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301.

Please note that due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, courthouses may have different rules regarding in-person attendance. Please check the court's website or contact us at Victimassistance.fraud@usdoj.gov if you are planning to attend.

Future case updates will be made available here, as appropriate.

For more information about the Sober Homes Takedown, please see below:

[Criminal Complaint](#)

Assistance for those with medical needs who may have been impacted by the Sober Homes Takedown enforcement actions:

DOJ, DEA, HHS-OIG, HHS' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Florida Department of Children and Families are deploying federal and state-level strategies to address patient harm and ensure continuity of care. Additional information regarding available treatment programs and where patients can turn for assistance is as follows:

[Mental Health & Substance Abuse Resources in Miami-Dade County](#)
[Thriving Mind South Florida Brochure](#)

Victim Impact Statement: If you would like to submit a Victim Impact Statement, you may do so by mailing the Victim Impact Statement to: Victim Witness Unit, U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Fraud Section, 10th & Constitution Avenue, NW, Bond Building, Room 4416, Washington, DC 20530. You also may submit the Victim Impact Statement via email at VictimAssistance.fraud@usdoj.gov or by fax at: (202) 514-3708.

[Victim Impact Statement \(PDF\)](#)

The information on this website will be updated as new developments arise in the case. If you have any questions, **please call the Victim Assistance Line toll-free at (888) 549-3945 or email us** at VictimAssistance.fraud@usdoj.gov.

Presumption of Innocence: It is important to keep in mind that an indictment contains allegations only, and that defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty. That presumption requires both the court and our office to take certain steps to ensure that justice is served.

Crime Victims' Rights Act and Right to Retain Counsel: The Crime Victims' Rights Act (18 U.S.C. § 3771) applies only to victims of the counts charged in federal court, and thus individuals may not be able to exercise all of these rights if the crime of which the individual is a victim was not charged. Section 3771(c)(2) of this Act requires that we advise you that you have the right to retain counsel. Although the statute specifically sets forth your right to seek advice of an attorney with regard to your rights under the statute, there is no requirement that you retain counsel. The Government may not recommend any specific counsel, nor can the government (or the court) pay for counsel to represent you. Government attorneys represent the United States.

If you elect to obtain counsel to represent your interests, please have your attorney notify this office in writing at: U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Fraud Section, 10th & Constitution Avenue, NW, Bond Building, 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20530, Attention: Victim Witness Unit; fax: (202) 514-3708; or email: VictimAssistance.fraud@usdoj.gov. If you elect not to retain counsel to represent your interests, you do not need to do anything.

Plea Agreements: Please be aware that many criminal cases are resolved by plea agreement between the Department of Justice and the defendant. You should also know that it is not unusual for a defendant to seek to negotiate a plea agreement shortly before trial is scheduled to begin. Plea agreements can be made at any time and as late as the morning of trial, leaving little or no opportunity to provide notice to you of the date and time of the plea hearing. If the court schedules a plea hearing in this case, we will use our best efforts to notify you of available information as soon as practicable. If you want to inform the prosecutor of your views regarding potential plea agreements, or any other aspect of the case, please call the Victim Assistance Line toll-free at (888) 549-3945 or email us at VictimAssistance.fraud@usdoj.gov, and we will put you in touch with the prosecutor.

Updated December 15, 2020

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Yes No