FEHB Program Carrier Letter All Carriers

Letter No. 1999-019

Date: April 19, 1999

Fee-for-service [16] Experience-rated HMO [16] Community-rated [17]

SUBJECT: United States of America and State of Florida, *ex rel.* Louis H. Mueller v. Eckerd Corporation, Case Number 95-2030-Civ-T-17C (M.D. Fla.)

As you are aware from FEHB Program Carrier Letter 1998-027, dated June 10, 1998, the United States has filed suit against the Eckerd Corporation under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. ' 3729-3739. The complaint alleges that Eckerd pharmacies knowingly submitted false claims to FEHB plans and other Government health programs by billing for partially-filled prescriptions as if they were fully-filled prescriptions.

Because some of the documents that may be in your possession are relevant to the case, we sent you Carrier Letter 1998-027 at the request of the U.S. Department of Justice. It asked that you preserve and maintain any documents generally related to claims submitted by Eckerd Corporation to you or your subcontractors from January 1, 1986, to the present. The Department of Justice now asks that you review Exhibit A to this letter, which outlines the specific categories of documents that are sought from carriers in connection with the above-captioned case, and forward copies of any responsive documents to Allie Pang, the Department of Justice attorney handling this case for the Government. Ms. Pang-s address is:

(mailing address) Allie Pang U.S. Department of Justice Commercial Litigation Branch P.O. Box 261, Ben Franklin Station Washington, DC 20004

(street address) Allie Pang U.S. Department of Justice Commercial Litigation Branch 601 D Street, NW, Room 6533 Washington, DC 20004

The Department of Justice requests that you forward any responsive documents to Ms. Pang by May 15, 1999. If you would like a copy of the Government=s

complaint, or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Pang directly at (202) 514-6846.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

Frank D. Titus Assistant Director for Insurance Programs

Enclosure: Attachment A

ENCLOSURE

This document is not available electronically and will be sent separately with this Carrier Letter mailing.

At other times, contact

Name: Vanessa Offut Phone: (202)606-0745 FAX: (202)606-0036 Email: vmoffut@opm.gov For this enclosure