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Fort Lauderdale therapist charged with Medicaid fraud

South Florida Sun-Sentinel

11:57 AM EST, December 6, 2007

FORT LAUDERDALE - Authorities arrested a therapist at her Fort Lauderdale home Thursday morning for falsifying more than \$6,000 worth of claims to Medicaid, according to the state Attorney General's Office.

Jennifer Baxt, 34, is being held at the Broward County jail and faces a charge of grand theft.

Baxt was a contract employee for South Florida Family Centers
Inc. in Tamarac. She was a licensed marriage and family health
therapist and a licensed mental health counselor, according to documents.



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The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit investigated Baxt after a mother told them that Baxt had sought reimbursement from Medicaid for behavior therapy that the woman's child did not receive, according to court documents.

Investigators discovered that between August and October in 2006, Baxt scheduled 71 appointments at the homes of 11 patients with developmental disabilities, but only arrived at seven sessions. Baxt still claimed financial compensation from Medicaid and even made up visit summaries and forged patient signatures, investigators said.

She could get up to five years in prison and fined \$5,000 on top of restitution to the Medicaid program, according to officials.

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