



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

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Monterey Park Physician, Two Employees Indicted on Insurance Fraud, Sale of Controlled Substance

District Attorney Jackie Lacey announced today that a Monterey Park pediatric physician and two employees have been indicted on allegations of Medi-Cal fraud, sale of a controlled substance, illegitimate prescribing of drugs and insurance fraud.

The 55-count Grand Jury indictment – BA414836 – was unsealed today after defendants Dr. Thomas Lin, his physician's assistant Nobel Lin (no relation), and employee Ricardo Chavarria pleaded not guilty.

Deputy District Attorneys John Niedermann and Ryan Dibble of the Major Narcotics Division are prosecuting the case.

Prosecutors said Thomas Lin (dob 11-06-69) owns and operates a pediatrics clinic known as "Kid's M.D." on Atlantic Boulevard in Monterey Park. Through his clinic, Lin allegedly provided diet pills known as phentermine, a controlled substance.

Over the course of several months, investigators from the California Medical Board posed as new patients and allegedly were able to secure phentermine with little or no physical examination by Dr. Lin or his physician's assistant, Nobel Lin (dob 12-28-72). Investigators allegedly received the drug either by paying his front office staff or receiving the drug for free.

The indictment charges Dr. Lin with multiple counts of the sale of a controlled substance and illegitimate prescribing. In addition, he is charged with multiple counts of Medi-Cal fraud and insurance fraud for allegedly billing for services that were never rendered to his patients. If convicted, he faces up to 34 years in custody. His bail was set at \$550,000.

(More)

The indictment also alleges that on multiple occasions, investigators were able to purchase phentermine directly from Ricardo Chavarria (dob 9-5-88), one of the doctor's employees who allegedly sold the drug away from the clinic. Chavarria is charged with sale of a controlled substance and unlicensed practice of medicine. If convicted, he faces up to six years and four months in custody. His bail was set at \$60,000.

Noble Lin is charged with illegitimate prescribing. If convicted, he faces up to five years and eight months in custody. His bail was set at \$100,000.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.