



ERIK NASARENKO

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

NEWS RELEASE



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Former Ventura County Employee Charged for Steering Six Figure Contracts to Wife's Company

VENTURA Calif. – Ventura County District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that former Ventura County Health Care Agency Compliance Officer Charles Edward Flood IV (DOB 04/13/69), of Joliet, Illinois, has been charged with two felony counts of conflict of interest. The complaint also alleges that Flood took advantage of a position of trust or confidence to commit the alleged crimes.

Flood was arrested Friday afternoon by Illinois State Troopers and will be extradited to Ventura County by the Ventura County Sheriff's Office.

"Public employees are entrusted with safeguarding taxpayer dollars and making decisions solely in the public's interest," said District Attorney Erik Nasarenko. "The allegations in this case describe a blatant and egregious violation of that trust. When a public employee is accused of secretly steering public funds to his own spouse's business, it undermines confidence in government and must be met with the full force of the law."

Beginning in 2022, Flood was employed as the Compliance Officer with the Ventura County Health Care Agency. A compliance officer is responsible for overseeing compliance-related activities and audits involving revenue integrity, physician contracts, privacy requirements, and HIPAA compliance. Hiring a third-party firm to conduct audits is a common part of the job.

Flood is accused of making contracts, on behalf of the County of Ventura, with AM Berry Consulting LLC (AMBC), a company owned and operated by his wife. Flood allegedly never disclosed their marital relationship prior to the signing of the contracts. During the contract period, Flood is accused of assigning compliance projects, approving work invoices, and authorizing County payments to AMBC. Between June 2023 and October 2024, Ventura County allegedly paid AMBC a total of \$222,910.

On October 30, 2024, the Ventura County Employee Fraud Hotline received an anonymous complaint alleging misconduct involving Flood, and the allegations were investigated. Flood's employment with the County of Ventura was terminated on February 9, 2025. The County terminated its contract with AMBC on February 3, 2025.

The Ventura County Auditor-Controller referred the matter to the Ventura County District Attorney's Office. The case was investigated by the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Public Integrity Unit and is being prosecuted by Senior Deputy District Attorney Chong-hwa Lee.

Case: 2025032626

Defendant Information:

Charles Edward Flood IV (DOB 04/13/69)
Joliet, Illinois

Charges:

- (2 counts) GC 1090(a) – Conflict of interest

Special allegations:

- PC 803(c) – Statute of limitations – late discovery
- CRC 4.421(a)(11) – Defendant took advantage of a position of trust or confidence to commit the offense