



March 10, 2025

Via Electronic Delivery Only

Re: DOJ Manipulates Malpractice Allegations to Fit Human Trafficking Narrative Against Mayo-Trained Gynecologic Oncologist

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 8, 2025

Memphis, Tennessee

Contact: Wendy Guarisco 404-354-6468

Despite Pam Bondi's explicit policy against "careerism," and "overcharging" Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee, Reagan Taylor Fondren, appears to have done exactly that. Transforming what is essentially a malpractice allegation into a sensationalized sex trafficking indictment, AAG Fondren pursued gynecologist Dr. Sanjeev Kumar through an extensive multi-year investigation. Instead of bringing concrete allegations in a factually accurate indictment, she elected to use it as an instrument to inflame the passions of a vulnerable patient population.

Dr. Kumar faces an indictment primarily related to allegations of improperly sterilized instruments and billing disputes with insurance companies. However, the statements made by AAG Fondren to the media—intentionally portraying a respected physician as a predator—do not align with the actual charges outlined in the indictment. The allegations are also rebutted squarely by the Tennessee Medical board that cleared Dr. Kumar of wrongdoing in a September 17, 2024 letter. They are also rebutted by a Medicaid pre-payment audit that reviewed claims submissions prior to reimbursement.

The press release issued by the DOJ, laden with vague yet inflammatory allegation was deliberately designed to instill fear and distress in Dr. Kumar's patient community. Dr. Kumar's legal team, comprising [Ronald W. Chapman II](#), former [Assistant United States Attorney Maritsa Flaherty](#), and former United States Attorney Lawrence Laurenzi, issued a formal letter notifying the Department of Justice and AAG Fondren of the false nature of the allegations. In response, AAG Fondren removed all comments and quotations from the original press release but did not notify media outlets.

Practice Areas

Administrative Law
Cannabis Law
Correctional Law
CMS Matters
Criminal Defense
DEA Matters
Estate Planning
Health Care Audits
Health Care Compliance
Health Care Fraud & Abuse
Health Care Law
Health Care Transactions
HIPAA & HITECH Matters
Medical Malpractice Defense
NPDB/Peer Review Matters
Pharmacy Law
Professional Licensing
General Litigation

California Office

5250 Lankershim Blvd.
Suite 500
North Hollywood, CA 91601
T. (818) 287-0576

Florida Offices

6841 Energy Ct.
Sarasota, FL 34240
T. (941) 893-3449

701 Waterford Way
Suite 340
Miami, FL 33126
T. (305) 712-7177

Michigan Office

1441 West Long Lake Rd.
Suite 310
Troy, MI 48098
T. (248) 644-6326
F. (248) 644-6324

March 10, 2025

U.S. v. Kumar

Page 2

The DOJ employs such tactics because they are effective. Merely implying that a male gynecologist may be predatory is enough to traumatize and anger nearly all of his patients. AAG Fondren exploited this fear, issuing a press release in violation of DOJ ethical standards, labeling Dr. Kumar as "a predator in a white coat" and accusing him of abusing women. These allegations immediately captured widespread media attention, including coverage by the New York Times and virtually all Memphis news outlets.

The consequences of AAG Fondren's actions were profound, causing unnecessary emotional trauma among vulnerable women by suggesting—without supporting evidence—that routine medical treatments constituted abuse by a predatory physician. The provocative press release encouraged patients to come forward, leading over 200 women within 48 hours to contact a law firm advertising compensation for victims, thus creating an environment of panic and suspicion.

Notably, Dr. Kumar's professional record remains impeccable. In fact, the Tennessee Department of Health ("TDOH") launched a state investigation following the government's execution of a search warrant at Dr. Kumar's clinic in which the TDOH found insufficient evidence to support any allegations that Dr. Kumar was adulterating or misbranding hysteroscopes.

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar is one of only 300 specialists nationwide in gynecologic oncology and pelvic surgery. His clinical expertise covers critical conditions such as cervical cancer, endometrial cancer, ovarian cancer, pelvic masses and tumors, and vulvar and vaginal cancers. A highly regarded surgeon at the local hospitals, prior associate professor at the University of Tennessee and a Mayo Clinic-trained surgeon, Dr. Kumar has co-authored over 40 peer-reviewed publications and received numerous awards.

Despite his distinguished career and strong professional endorsements, the U.S. Attorney's Office has alleged that Dr. Kumar sexually assaulted women through supposedly unnecessary medical tests. Such claims regarding medical necessity typically require expert medical opinion, which the prosecution notably lacks. The indictment does not cite any expert medical testimony backing the DOJ's claims.

The specific procedures in question, such as hysteroscopy, are commonly performed for numerous medically justified reasons, including fertility issues, abnormal pap smears, uterine bleeding, endometriosis, miscarriages, removal of scar tissue, fibroids, polyps, and biopsies. Dr. Kumar's treatments were consistently supported by appropriate medical diagnostics and referrals from respected primary care physicians nationwide.

Crucially, the indictment itself contains no allegations of sexual assault. Instead, it amounts to a payment disagreement between Dr. Kumar's billing practices and what Medicare, Medicaid, and insurance providers agreed to reimburse.

Dr. Kumar, represented by his [attorneys](#), intends to vigorously contest these allegations at trial and looks forward to achieving justice. Dr. Kumar's team is highly experienced in defending healthcare fraud allegations. Ron Chapman and his team have earned over [150 acquitted counts](#) in [healthcare fraud](#) jury trials saving their clients over \$550 million in fines and forfeitures.