



18000 Studebaker Road, Fourth Floor  
Cerritos, California 90703

## **Judge Halts Medi-Cal Cuts to Physicians**

Yesterday, January 30, 2011, District Court Judge Christina Snyder granted the preliminary injunction sought by California physicians to stop the state's proposed 10% Medi-Cal payment cut to physicians. Physicians were optimistic the court would rule in their favor (and against the cuts) after Judge Snyder last month enjoined the state's attempts to apply similar cuts to skilled nursing facilities and pharmacies. The victory, however, may be temporary because the ruling is likely to be appealed by the State which is desperate to find ways to cut spending.

Whichever direction the current battle between the State of California and Medi-Cal providers takes, however, could be rendered moot later this year when the US Supreme Court is expected to rule on whether individuals or provider groups have the constitutional right to sue federal Medicaid programs for what they perceive as unfair and arbitrary cuts to their already low payment rates. The US Supreme Court decision is expected sometime in June or July of 2012.

We will provide updates to this issue as developments occur. If you have questions about the Court's ruling or the Medi-Cal cuts, please contact Jay Packer, Marina's Director of Legal Services at [jpacker@marinabilling.com](mailto:jpacker@marinabilling.com) or (562) 809-3521.