

September 3, 2019

Dear potential juror:

You have been summoned as a potential juror in the case of United States v. Syed Ather. Dr. Ather is a medical doctor. He is charged with health care fraud, specifically, participating in a scheme to defraud Medicare to obtain unlawful payments.

The charges are only accusations. Dr. Ather has pleaded not guilty to the charges and contends that he acted in good faith. He is presumed to be innocent of the charges. Before a person who is charged with a crime can be convicted, the government must prove his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

In order to streamline the process of jury selection, the Court has prepared the attached questionnaire. Please take a few moments to complete it. Although I have not given you a great deal of space for your answers, please do your best to write legibly so that I and the lawyers in the case can read your answers. Because your answers may assist me and the lawyers in the process of jury selection, it is very important that you be truthful and accurate in answering the questions. When you come to the courtroom, we may ask you some additional questions.

At the conclusion of the jury selection process, all of the questionnaires will be returned to the Court, and they will not be made part of the public record in the case.

Thank you for your time and for your service today.

Sincerely,

Matthew F. Kennelly

MFK:m
attachment

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PROSPECTIVE JURORS

1. Your full name: _____ 2. Your age: _____
3. List all cities or suburbs where you have lived for the last ten years (if Chicago, please identify what part of Chicago, for example, South Side, Rogers Park, etc.):

4. Do you own your home, or do you rent it? _____
5. Your level of education / degrees: _____
6. Your current occupation, name of your employer, and number of years employed there (if you are retired, please give this information about your last occupation):

7. What other jobs and employers have you had during your working life?

8. Do you have children? _____ If yes, what are their ages? _____
9. If you are married, describe your spouse's occupation, employer, and number of years worked there (if spouse is retired, please give this information about past employment):

10. Employment information about anyone else who lives with you (for example, children, parents, roommates), and any adult children that you have:

11. Have you served in the military? _____ If yes, what branch of service? _____
12. What newspapers, magazines, Internet websites, and blogs do you read regularly?

13. What TV or radio shows do you regularly watch or listen to regularly?

14. What are your hobbies and major interests outside of work?

15. List any organizations you belong to or participate in (for example, union, professional, church, social, fraternal, recreational, political, etc.):

(See back of page for additional questions)

16. Have you, or any relatives, or close friends, ever worked in law enforcement? _____
17. Have you ever applied for a law enforcement or security-related job? _____
18. Have you, or any relatives, or close friends, ever applied for a job with, or worked for, any agency of the federal, state, or local government? _____
19. Do you have any close friends or relatives who are lawyers, judges, or court personnel? _____
20. Have you or any relatives or close friends, ever been the victim of a crime? _____
21. Have you or any relatives or close friends, ever been a witness to a crime? _____
22. Have you or any relatives or close friends, ever been arrested or charged with a crime, convicted of a crime, or jailed or imprisoned? _____
23. Have you ever testified in court, or before a grand jury, or in a deposition? _____
24. Have you ever served on a jury or on a grand jury? _____
25. Have you, or any relatives, or close friends, ever worked as a doctor, nurse, physician's assistant, nurse, home healthcare worker, or other medical professional? _____
26. Have you, or any relatives, or close friends, ever worked for the Medicare program or for a private health insurance company? _____
27. Have you, or any relatives, or close friends, ever worked in a doctor's office, a hospital, a nursing home, a residential treatment facility, or a home health care company? _____
28. Have you, or any relatives, or close friends, ever resided in a nursing home or residential treatment facility, or received home health care? _____
29. Have you or any family members ever received home health care services? _____
30. Have you, a family member, or a close friend had experiences with medical treatment or with a physician left you with strong positive or negative feelings about physicians? _____
31. Have you ever been the victim of a fraud or a financial crime? _____
32. This case involves agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and Railroad Retirement Board. Have you, or any relatives, or close friends, had any dealings with any of these agencies, or do you have any views or opinions about any of these agencies that might make it hard for you to be fair and impartial? _____
33. The defendant, Dr. Ather, is a United States citizen. He is originally from India, and he is a Muslim-American. Do you have any views or opinions about Muslims, or about people from India, that might make it hard for you to be fair and impartial? _____
34. Is there anything at all that you can think of that might make it difficult for you to be fair to the government or to Dr. Ather, the defendant in this case?
