

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JOANNE CLEIGHTON,	:	
	:	
PLAINTIFF	:	
	:	CIVIL ACTION NO. _____
v.	:	
	:	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
ABINGTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL,	:	
	:	
DEFENDANT.	:	

**COMPLAINT**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. Joanne Cleighton (“Plaintiff”) brings this employment action against Abington Memorial Hospital (“AMH” or “Defendant”). Plaintiff was an exemplary employee of AMH for more than 26 years who was suspended without pay and then terminated immediately following AMH’s Compliance Department’s receipt of Plaintiff’s complaint of insurance fraud by AMH under the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Plaintiff asserts claims against Defendant arising under Section 3730(h) of the federal False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729, *et seq.* (“FCA”), Section 1423(a) of the Pennsylvania Whistleblower Law, 43 P.S. § 1421, *et seq.* (“Pa WBL”), and Pennsylvania common law. She is seeking economic, compensatory, and punitive damages, costs and attorney’s fees, and other relief as permitted under federal and state law.

**II. PARTIES**

2. Plaintiff is an individual and citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, residing therein in Roslyn, Pennsylvania.

3. Defendant is a hospital, duly organized and existing as a corporation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

4. Defendant maintains its principal place of business at 1200 Old York Road in Abington, Pennsylvania, which is in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

5. At all times material hereto, Defendant transacted business within the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and is subject to the personal jurisdiction of this Court.

6. At all times material hereto, Defendant was acting through its agents, servants and employees, who were acting within the scope of their authority, course of employment and under the direct control of Defendant and in furtherance of Defendant's business.

7. At all times material hereto, Defendant has received federal funding in connection with the provision of services under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

8. At all times material hereto, Defendant has received funds by or through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and/or political subdivision authority including, without limitation, from its participation in Pennsylvania's Medical Assistance program (Medicaid), and as a direct beneficiary of Pennsylvania's allocation from the Master Settlement Agreement with the tobacco industry.

9. At all times material hereto, Defendant has been an "employer" within the meaning of the laws at issue in this case.

10. From in or about February, 1988 through on or about March 25, 2014, Plaintiff was an employee of Defendant.

11. At all times material hereto, Plaintiff was an "employee" within the meaning of the laws at issue in this case.



















































