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By Nina Youngstrom

◆ **Edward R. Hills, the former chief operating officer of MetroHealth Hospital System in Cleveland, Ohio, was sentenced to more than 15 years in federal prison** for his part in a conspiracy to defraud the hospital through its dental program, the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Ohio said April 11. A jury found Hills and others—Sari Alqsous of Cleveland, Yazan B. Al-Madani of Westlake and Tariq Sayegh of Cleveland—guilty last year. DOJ said court documents described “elaborate bribery conspiracies, witness tampering and other crimes” that lasted from 2008 to 2016. For example, Hills solicited money, checks and expensive gifts, including airline flights, from Alqsous, Al-Madani and others. “In return, Hills took official actions on their behalf, including allowing them to work at their private dental businesses during regular business hours while receiving a full-time salary from MetroHealth,” the U.S. attorney’s office said. Visit <http://bit.ly/2U9JTQB>.

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