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Two Tenet Healthcare Corp. hospitals in California agreed to pay \$371,000 in a civil monetary penalty settlement over the employment of the same excluded person.

According to the settlement, which was obtained through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG) alleged that John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital employed an excluded individual from June 20, 2017, to July 15, 2018, for the provision of items or services that were reimbursed by a federal health care program. Emanuel Medical Center did the same thing from July 16, 2018, to March 20, 2019. The hospitals employed the same excluded person, but the settlement didn't identify the person or job title and a spokesperson declined to elaborate.

"We identified that an employee had been excluded from federal healthcare programs unrelated to work at two of our hospitals. We resolved this matter by self-disclosing it to the OIG," John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital said in a statement.

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