

August 19, 2003

For Immediate Release

Industry Coalition Applauds Action to Halt Alleged Houston-based Medicare Abuse

WASHINGTON -- The Power Mobility Coalition (PMC), a national alliance of manufacturers and suppliers of power wheelchairs and scooters, has applauded action by law enforcement agencies to uncover Medicare fraud in the Houston area.

Tim Zipp, PMC President, said that after suspecting impropriety in the Houston area, the Coalition shared its concerns with Medicare and law enforcement officials and encouraged them to weed out fraud and abuse.

“One of the primary goals of the Coalition is to improve the quality of our industry through the effective use of stringent standards, state licensure, corporate accreditation and consistent enforcement of regulations,” Zipp said. “We will continue to participate actively in those efforts to assure that consumers enjoy the freedom and mobility offered by legitimate providers.”

The PMC advises Medicare beneficiaries to ask the supplier two things to help ensure legitimacy when locating a reputable provider of mobility equipment:

- How long have they been an approved Medicare supplier?
- Will they work with your treating physician or does the supplier require you to work with one they recommend?

PMC members serve Medicare beneficiaries in all regions of the country. The organization is an advocate for those who require mobility equipment to regain freedom

and mobility in their lives. Working with the federal government and medical community, PMC provides a voice for beneficiaries, suppliers and manufacturers.

- 30 -

For more information on the Power Mobility Coalition, visit www.pmcoalition.org.

Contact: Tim Zipp or Stephen Azia
(202) 296-7088