

## OPO Oversight Cases

Type of Wrongdoing	Description	Impact/Actions taken	Date	Location	OPO	Source/Press
Patient safety	Provided organs with wrong blood type to 17-year-old patient	Patient died. CMS wrote double checking blood types into conditions of coverage and conditions of participations. OPO still certified.	2003	Duke	Carolina Donor Services	<a href="#">CBS News</a>
Finance	OIG found wasteful spending by Los Angeles OPO on things like football tickets and parade expenses	OPO created a foundation so they could use private donations to pay for future parade expenses. UNOS claimed they are not authorized to monitor wasteful spending in response to the Senate Finance Committee. OPO still certified.	2010	California	OneLegacy-Los Angeles OPO	<a href="#">Office of Inspector General</a>
Finance	OIG found unallowable costs including "gourmet food and exotic drinks"	A report was sent to HHS. UNOS claimed they are not authorized to monitor wasteful spending in response to the Senate Finance Committee. OPO still certified.	2010	California	California Transplant Donor Network	<a href="#">Office of Inspector General</a>
Corruption	Alabama Organ Center had scheme with funeral home and received kickbacks.	Executives were sent to prison. OPO still certified.	2012	Alabama	Alabama Organ Center; former director Demosthenes Lalisian and associate director Richard Alan	<a href="#">FBI Press Release</a>
Corruption/Tissue	Investigation into Missouri OPO self-dealing, tissue conflicts of interest	None known. OPO still certified.	2012	Missouri	Mid-America Transplant Services	<a href="#">STL Today</a>
Finance	HHS Office of Inspector General found OPO did not comply with reporting requirements.	A report was sent to HHS. OPO still certified.	2012	Arizona	Donor Network of Arizona	<a href="#">Office of Inspector General</a>
Finance	OIG found "did not fully comply with Medicare requirements... on cost report"	UNOS says they do not do financial audits. OPO still certified.	2012	Washington	LifeCenter NW	<a href="#">Office of Inspector General</a>
Finance	Investigative reporting found board members billing taxpayers for private planes	UNOS claimed they are not authorized to monitor wasteful spending in response to the Senate Finance Committee. OPO still certified.	2013	Ohio	Life Connection of Ohio	<a href="#">Trib Live</a>
Finance	Investigative reporting found OPO paying family members of board and executives	UNOS claimed they are not authorized to monitor wasteful spending in response to the Senate Finance Committee. OPO still certified.	2013	Ohio	Life Connection of Ohio	<a href="#">Trib Live</a>
Workplace Violence	OPO supervisor allegedly assaulted nurse and doctor for complaining about insufficient staffing and training	Nurse and doctor who spoke out were let go. One was fired and the other's contract was not renewed. The supervisor kept his position. The OPO was put designated Member Not In Good Standing by UNOS, but it's not disclosed whether the designation was due to this instance or another instance.	2015	South Florida	Life Alliance Organ Recovery Agency	<a href="#">Miami Herald</a>
Patient Safety	Uterine transplant followed by life-threatening infection due to lack of reporting	UNOS investigated several months after the issue happened, following the media. CMS deferred to UNOS. OPO still certified.	2016	South Florida	Life Alliance Organ Recovery Agency	<a href="#">Washington Post</a>
Consent	Misled a donor family and "took more tissue than what was authorized" according to a lawsuit	Family of donors took legal action. OPO still certified	2016	Nevada	Nevada Donor Network	<a href="#">Las Vegas Review-Journal</a>
Operations	Investigative Reporting found OPO "particularly bad" at its job and "short-staffed at critical moments"	Federal officials tried to shut down the OPO in June. LiveOnNY appealed. OPO still certified.	2018	New York	LiveOnNY	<a href="#">Washington Post</a>
Patient safety	OPO sent liver and lungs with wrong blood type. Lung patient died, and liver patient was injured.	Following news coverage, investigators found problems with OPO's blood-typing policies. OPO still certified.	2018	South Carolina	We are Sharing Hope SC	<a href="#">Post and Courier</a>
Corruption/Tissue	OPO interfered with death investigations through improper tissue harvesting and then to have coordinated with coroners' offices to cover it up	None known. OPO still certified.	2019	California	OneLegacy-Los Angeles OPO	<a href="#">LA Times</a>
Consent	OPO took someone's corneas without consent	Family of donor took legal action. Senate Finance Committee asked for further information regarding the case. OPO still certified	2019	Arizona	Donor Network of Arizona	<a href="#">ABC 15 Arizona</a>