

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS State Surgeon General & Secretary

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

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MIAMI-DADE LABORATORY HONORED WITH THE "PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY QUALITY ASSURANCE AWARD"

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Department of Health's (DOH) State Public Health Laboratory in Miami recently received the "Public Health Laboratory Quality Assurance Award." The award was presented by the US Department of Homeland Security's Office of Health Affairs for the lab's outstanding work in receiving, processing and analyzing biological samples.

"Accurate and timely laboratory data are critical to support and inform public health decisions," said State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health Dr. John Armstrong. "The Florida Department of Health sets a high standard for quality assurance and I'm pleased that our laboratories are being recognized for their excellent work."

The Bureau of Public Health Laboratories provides laboratory testing services to support disease prevention and control efforts in the state. The Bureau consists of four state-of-the-art public health laboratories located in Jacksonville, Miami, Pensacola, and Tampa.

The Miami-Dade County Health Department Laboratory Services Program provides a variety of laboratory testing and services to 22 clinics concerned with sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, refugee health screening, family planning and health care of women, infants and children.

The Department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. During 2014, the Department is recognizing 125 years of public health in Florida with educational opportunities and events. Please visit <u>www.FLHealth125.gov</u> for more information.

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