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## JOINT UNLICENSED ACTIVITY INVESTIGATION LEADS TO ARREST IN MIAMI DADE, FL



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**Tallahassee, Fla.**—The Florida Department of Health’s Fort Lauderdale Unlicensed Activity (ULA) Unit announced that a joint investigation with the Miami-Dade Police Department, Hialeah Police Department, the Broward County Sheriff’s Office and the Miami State Attorney’s Office has led to the arrest of Nery Carvajal Gonzalez for the alleged unlicensed practice of medicine, a third degree felony and punishable by a minimum of one year incarceration.

On Aug. 24, 2015, while returning from Colombia, Nery Carvajal Gonzalez was arrested at Miami International Airport and transported to Turner Guilford Knight Correctional Center (TGKCC) Miami-Dade where she will remain in custody. The arrest warrant was issued by the 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit of the Court for Nery Carvajal Gonzalez and Mark David Schreiber, who was arrested by the Broward County Sheriff’s Office on July 31, 2015. A Cease and Desist Agreement was issued to Nery Carvajal Gonzalez by the Department of Health on Aug. 25, 2015.

The department has several resources to combat unlicensed activity:

- Consumers are encouraged to use the department’s website [www.flhealthsource.gov](http://www.flhealthsource.gov) where they can conveniently view the license information of their health care practitioner.
- Complaints may be filed anonymously by completing and mailing the complaint form on the Florida Department of Health’s website or calling 1-877-HALT-ULA.

The department’s ULA program protects Florida residents and visitors from the potentially serious and dangerous consequences of receiving medical and health care services from an unlicensed person. The department’s Division of Medical Quality Assurance (MQA) investigates and refers for prosecution all unlicensed health care activity complaints and allegations. The Unlicensed Activity Unit works in conjunction with law enforcement and the state attorney’s offices to prosecute individuals practicing without a license. In many instances, unlicensed activity is a felony level criminal offense. More importantly, receiving health care from unlicensed people is dangerous and could result in further injury, disease or even death.

Working in conjunction with 22 boards and six councils, MQA regulates seven types of facilities and 200-plus license types in more than 40 health care professions. MQA evaluates the credentials of all applicants for licensure, issues licenses, analyzes and investigates complaints, inspects facilities, assists in prosecuting practice act violations, combats unlicensed activity and

provides credential and discipline history about licensees to the public. Visit: <http://www.flhealthsource.gov> for additional information about MQA.

### **About the Florida Department of Health**

The department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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