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JOINT INVESTIGATION LEADS TO ARREST IN TALLAHASSEE



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Tallahassee, Fla.— The Florida Department of Health’s Unlicensed Activity (ULA) Unit in Pensacola announced that their joint investigation with the Leon County Sheriff’s Office on August 30, 2018 has led to the arrest of Patrice Louis Delevoe Jr. for the alleged unlicensed practice of dentistry, which is a third-degree felony and punishable by up to one year in jail.

The joint operation was conducted at Delevoe’s Lobby, located at 1102 South Adams Street, Suite B, Tallahassee, FL 32301, where a mold was created and an undercover officer was fitted for a dental device referred to as a “grill.” The department issued Delevoe a Notice to Cease and Desist for practicing dentistry without a license and the Leon County Sheriff’s Office arrested Delevoe for practicing dentistry without a license. The department also issued Delevoe’s Lobby a Notice to Cease and Desist for operating a dental lab without a license.

The department has several resources to combat unlicensed activity:

- Consumers are encouraged to use the department’s website www.flhealthsource.gov/ula 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 Web site, calling 1-877-HALT-ULA, or emailing HALTULA@flhealth.gov.

The department’s Division of Medical Quality Assurance (MQA) investigates and refers for prosecution all unlicensed health care activity complaints and allegations. The ULA 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 four 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

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