## JOINT INVESTIGATION LEADS TO ARREST OF LILIANA PATRICIA SANCHEZ FOR PRACTICING AS AN UNLICENSED DOCTOR



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**Tallahassee, Fla.**— The Florida Department of Health's Unlicensed Activity (ULA) Unit in Miami announced that their joint investigation with the Miami Dade Police Department has led to the arrest of Liliana Patricia Sanchez for alleged unlicensed practice of medicine, which is a third-degree felony and punishable by up to one year in jail.

The joint operation was conducted on March 29, 2018 at Sanchez's place of business, located at 2721 SW 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 111 Miami, where an undercover DOH ULA investigator and a detective with the Miami Dade Police Department were offered Botox injections for a fee of \$300 by Sanchez. The Miami Dade Police Department arrested Sanchez and DOH issued Sanchez an Unlicensed Activity Citation and a Notice to Cease and Desist for practicing medicine without a license in the amount of \$1,000.00.

The department has several resources to combat unlicensed activity:

- Consumers are encouraged to use the department's website <u>www.flhealthsource.gov/ula</u> 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.

DOH'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.

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