

CITY OF DORAL Office of the City Manager Letter to Council

LTC No.: 113-2017

To: The Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Edward A. Rojas, City Manager

Date: October 12, 2017

Subject: Arrest of Unlicensed Doctor

This Letter to Council (LTC) is to inform the Mayor and City Council-members of a significant arrest conducted by Doral Police Department.

In August 2017, the Doral Police Department received information from a Physician's Assistant (PA) employed at Med-Clinic Healthcare located at 10800 NW 58 ST, Doral, about Jose Ramirez, an employee at the clinic, practicing medicine without a license. Mr. Ramirez represented himself as a doctor, treated patients, and prescribed medications. The PA suspected something was amiss when she was asked to sign prescriptions for Mr. Ramirez. She also noticed Mr. Ramirez would write prescriptions under the name of a licensed doctor. The PA suspected Mr. Ramirez to be an unlicensed healthcare provider and reported her suspicions to the police.

Detectives from Doral Police, Miami-Dade Police Department's Medical Crimes Unit, the Florida Department of Health, and the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office investigated the allegations and confirmed Jose Ramirez was not a licensed healthcare provider. Doral Detectives also learned that Mr. Ramirez performed procedures such as infiltrations, wart removal, suturing of lacerations, and administration of intravenous medication. Mr. Ramirez also ordered lab work and imaging studies, and prescribed medications to patients. He practiced as a healthcare provider without being licensed by the State of Florida.

On today's date, Mr. Ramirez was arrested by Detectives from Doral Police and Miami-Dade Police Department. In addition, Doral Detectives with the assistance of Doral Code Enforcement responded to Med-Clinic Healthcare and ceased all operations. This is still an ongoing investigation. A press release was completed in an attempt to locate additional victims. The investigation continues.

If you have any questions on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the City Manager's Office or Police Chief, Donald De Lucca.

cc: Albert P. Childress, Deputy City Manager Donald W. De Lucca, Police Chief