



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ISSUES SEVEN
EMERGENCY SUSPENSION ORDERS**

- Action taken against licenses of seven practitioners -

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Department of Health (DOH) today announced the Emergency Suspension Orders (ESO) of seven Florida practitioners. The ESOs immediately suspend the practitioners' licenses to practice in Florida.

"I remain committed to identifying and investigating people who are illegally practicing medicine or revealing unbecoming conduct," stated State Surgeon General Dr. Frank Farmer. "By using the appropriate disciplinary tools, such as Emergency Suspension Orders, we can ensure we protect public health."

Over the past week the following ESOs were filed:

- **Nicole Lee Pfeiffer, Registered Nurse**, Spring Hill. Pfeiffer violated Florida Statutes by being terminated from a treatment program for impaired practitioners for failure to comply, without good cause, with the terms of the monitoring or treatment contract entered into by the licensee, or for not successfully completing any drug treatment or alcohol treatment program and by engaging in unprofessional conduct to include testing positive for any drugs under Chapter 893 on any drug screen when the nurse does not have a prescription and legitimate medical reason for using such drug.
- **Manuel Gerardo Pacheco, Pharmacy Technician**, Miami. Pacheco violated Florida Statutes by diverting medications from his place of work, for his own financial benefit, and distributed them to a patient and/or other individuals outside the course of the professional practice of pharmacy.
- **Austina Laura Crowley, Registered Nurse**, Cape Coral. Crowley violated Florida Statutes by being terminated from a treatment program for impaired practitioners for failure to comply, without good cause, with the terms of the monitoring or treatment contract entered into by the licensee, or for not successfully completing any drug treatment or alcohol treatment program and by being unable to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness or use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals or any other type of material, or as a result of any mental or physical condition.
- **John Kenneth Lenihan, Chiropractic Physician**, Pompano Beach. Lenihan violated Florida Statutes by entering a plea of guilty to three counts of false and fraudulent insurance claims.
- **Alan A. Gumer, Medical Doctor**, Sunrise. Gumer violated Florida Statutes by pleading guilty to one count of knowingly and willfully combining, conspiring, confederating and

agreeing with others, by executing a scheme and artifice to defraud a health care benefit program affecting commerce, namely Medicare.

- **Maureen E. Wilson, Certified Nursing Assistant**, Sebring. Wilson violated Florida Statutes by entering a plea of nolo contendere to one count of welfare fraud.
- **Veronica Jane Coutts, Licensed Practical Nurse**, Pace. Coutts violated Florida Statutes by entering a plea of nolo contendere to four counts of possession of legend drugs without a prescription, one count of petit theft and nine counts of possession of a controlled substance.

View the complete Emergency Suspension listed above on DOH's Online Newsroom at <http://newsroom.doh.state.fl.us/category/healthcare-licensing/>.

Emergency suspension or restriction orders are not considered final agency action but are imposed as specified by section 456.074, Florida Statutes, for serious violations relating to the commission of crimes, standard of care, drug use, or for student loan defaults. The subject is entitled to a hearing before final action is taken by a regulatory board or by DOH.

To learn more about the Florida Department of Health visit www.doh.state.fl.us.

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The mission of the Florida Department of Health and Medical Quality Assurance (MQA) is to protect and promote the health of all residents and visitors in the state through organized state and community efforts, including cooperative agreements with counties. Working in conjunction with 22 boards and six councils, MQA regulates six types of facilities and more than 40 healthcare 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.