

# Memorandum



**Date:** March 3, 2022

Agenda Item No. 2(B)(5)  
May 3, 2022

**To:** Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Daniella Levine Cava   
Mayor

**Subject:** Report to Enforce All Applicable County Code Requirements Against Unauthorized and Unlicensed Medical Recovery Centers Operating from Residential Properties and Vacation Rentals in Miami-Dade County - Directive 212550

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The following information is submitted in response to Resolution No. R-1185-21, sponsored by Senator Javier D. Souto, and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on December 1, 2021, directing the County Mayor or designee to vigorously enforce all applicable County Code requirements against unauthorized and unlicensed medical recovery centers operating from residential properties and vacation rentals in Miami-Dade County, and prepare a report detailing the enforcement action taken and the results of such action.

Currently, the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER) and the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) inspect all unauthorized and unlicensed medical recovery centers operating in residential properties and vacation rentals within Miami-Dade County to ensure compliance. The RER and AHCA investigators who conduct the audits, now work in conjunction with the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) in this endeavor. As of March 2020, the MDPD began conducting proactive enforcement of Florida Statutes Section 429.08, *Unlicensed facilities; referral of person for residency to unlicensed facility*; penalties, to ensure potential criminality is addressed and enforced as appropriate.

Since 2018, RER, AHCA, and/or MDPD have responded to 65 complaints regarding unlicensed medical recovery centers operating from residential properties as depicted on the below chart. These complaints yielded 3 felony arrests, 12 citations, 17 notices of unlicensed activity, and 10 residences were found to have no violations. In 2021, there was a 150% increase of complaints compared to the period of January 2020 - December 2020. From January 2021 to December 2021, there were 40 unlicensed medical recovery centers operating from residential properties complaints. However, due to the implemented measures to enforce all applicable County Code requirements, three felony arrests have been made and 33 complaints have been cited and/or exceptionally cleared of any wrongdoing. The MDPD maintains a resolute commitment to providing enforcement on all applicable County Codes and Florida Statutes to better serve the residents of Miami-Dade County, while urging the State of Florida to take appropriate action to enforce applicable licensing requirements and regulations.

**Complaints Against Unauthorized and  
 Unlicensed Medical Recovery Centers**

<b>Locations</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>Total</b>
District 1	0	0	1	2	3
District 2	0	0	0	5	5
District 7	1	0	0	1	2
District 8	0	1	1	3	5
District 9	0	0	1	3	4
District 10	2	2	3	6	13
District 11	0	2	10	17	29
District 12	0	1	0	0	1
District 13	0	0	0	3	3
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>65</b>

The MDPD will engage with RER and AHCA to develop and implement a proactive enforcement approach along with an educational campaign, including but not limited to, public service announcements on radio, television, and social media outlets, regarding the dangers of unauthorized and unlicensed medical recovery centers operating from residential properties and vacation rentals in Miami-Dade County. The educational campaign shall include public service announcements in English, Spanish, and Creole.

Per Ordinance 14-65, this memorandum will be placed on the next available Board meeting agenda.

Should you require additional information, please contact Interim Director George A. Perez, Miami-Dade Police Department, at 305-471-3272.

- c: Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney
- Gerald Sanchez, First Assistant County Attorney
- Jess McCarty, Executive Assistant County Attorney
- Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
- George A. Perez, Interim Director, Miami-Dade Police Department
- Lourdes M. Gomez, Director, Regulatory and Economic Resources Department
- Jennifer Moon, Chief, Office of Policy and Budgetary Affairs
- Adeyinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor
- Basia Pruna, Director, Clerk of the Board
- Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator