



**Rick Staly, Sheriff**

## **FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

*"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."*

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**Date:** Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

**Contact:** Shannon Martin | (386) 586-4802 | [martin@flaglersheriff.com](mailto:martin@flaglersheriff.com)

## **FCSO Investigating Palm Coast Physician on Allegations of Inappropriate Contact with Patients**

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) is actively investigating several claims against Palm Coast Urgent Care physician Florence R. Fruehan alleging that he was inappropriate with patients. FCSO is partnering with the Florida Department of Health who have, as a result of this investigation, imposed an Emergency Restriction Order against Fruehan effective immediately.

This Restriction Order will prevent Fruehan from treating and/or interacting with female patients without the accompaniment of a healthcare professional who is currently in possession of a clear and active license with the Florida Department of Health.

Fruehan had one prior run in with law enforcement in 2006 for sexual battery when a patient had alleged that he had examined her inappropriately but the charges were ultimately dropped.

"This is a nightmare for any patient and the allegations are very serious," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "The Flagler County Sheriff's Office is actively investigating the allegations against Dr. Fruehan."

FCSO asks that anyone else who was a patient of Dr. Fruehan and feels that they had an inappropriate experience to contact us immediately to file a formal complaint at 386-313-4911.

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