

# ¡NO a los Médicos Clandestinos!

## Campaign Against Illegal Medical Practices in Nevada

A UNR Latino Research Center and Nevada State Health Division Statewide Initiative

### THE ISSUE

There is a growing problem of unlicensed healthcare in Nevada's Latino community. Uncertified individuals in Nevada have been posing as qualified healthcare providers and have been illegally practicing medicine. The UNR Latino Research Center is creating a statewide campaign that will focus on the most dangerous aspects of unlicensed healthcare - the medical procedures.

### THE SCAM – A Typical Scenario: “Carla”

Carla wants Botox injections in her face, but she has heard these injections can be quite costly – upwards of \$600. She starts asking around her community, talking with friends, family and neighbors. Carla hears that her friend's sister knows someone who got a similar procedure done by a “doctor” – he only charged her \$200 and did the procedure for her in her home. Carla gets the “doctor's” phone number and sets up an appointment for him to come to her house. He brings all of his own equipment and speaks to her in medical jargon – assuring her that he is fully qualified and he's actually a certified medical provider in his home country. The next day, Carla is in a lot of pain and she has to be rushed to the hospital. She later finds out that the “doctor” actually injected her face with industrial grade silicone and used tire sealant to close the wound. Carla has severe facial disfigurement and has to undergo many painful corrective procedures – and now she owes thousands of dollars in medical bills.

This scenario is typical of what is going on throughout the State of Nevada – these unlicensed physicians are smooth and smart. They convince their victims that they are qualified. They often say that they are certified medical providers in their home countries...and they vanish if something goes wrong.

### THE CAMPAIGN

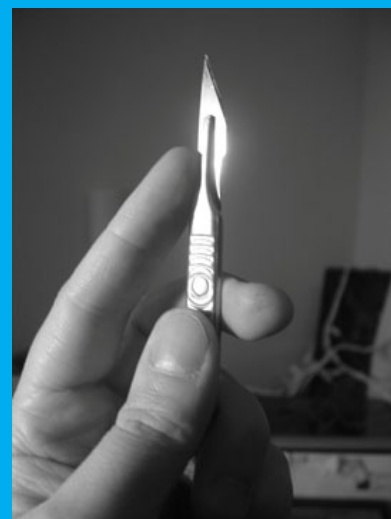
In response to the growing public health concern, the UNR Latino Research Center, the Nevada State Health Division and former Nevada Attorney General Frankie Sue Del Papa are working together to build a campaign that will raise awareness to educate the community and help stop people from falling prey to these fake physicians.

### CAMPAIGN GOALS:

- To raise awareness of the severe health consequences and costly dangers of these illegal procedures.
- To encourage the community to report someone practicing medicine without a license.

- To inform people of how to detect a qualified and certified provider and to provide the community with a list of legitimate healthcare resources – providers, insurance options and payment plans.
- To show those who are at risk of falling prey to these illegal medical providers that there is an alternative and to facilitate the process of accessing these alternatives.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP



Pass this information on!

For this campaign to be successful, we need all of the right people involved – community leaders, faith-based organizations, public-interest groups and law enforcement. This is just the beginning and there is much more to come. Please help us by staying involved and encouraging participation to anyone who is interested or concerned.

Contact:

**Drew Bradley or Hilda Gallardo**

UNR Latino Research Center  
drewbradley@unr.edu / hildag@unr.edu

(775) 682-9044

For more information please visit:  
[www.unr.edu/latinocenter](http://www.unr.edu/latinocenter)