



NEWS RELEASE

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PATERSON MAN CHARGED AS UNLICENSED DENTIST

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

APRIL 23, 2010

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes announces that Detectives from the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office and Investigators from the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs executed a search warrant at 203 East 24th Paterson, New Jersey yesterday and seized items related to the unlicensed practice of dentistry at that location. Also seized were prescription drugs usually used in the practice of dentistry, including Lidocaine, various dental instruments, bio-hazardous material, and syringes.

Criminal complaints were signed against Rafael Pou, 46 years of age, of Hackensack, New Jersey for allegedly practicing dentistry without a license, unlawful possession of prescription legend drugs with intent to distribute, and unlawful storage of biohazard materials, all charges are crimes of the third degree. Also charged with a third degree offense was Marta Peralta, age 52, of Paterson, New Jersey for conspiring with Pou by providing him with the location to conduct the unlicensed dental practice. Third degree offenses are punishable by up to five years in prison.

A joint investigation by the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office and the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs allegedly revealed that Pou operated an unlicensed dental office out of the single family residence of 203 East 24th Street. The biohazardous material seized was

medical waste generated from a recent dental procedure. Records of the Board of Dentistry show that Pou is not licensed to practice dentistry in the State of New Jersey.

Chief Assistant Prosecutor Jay W. McCann will be prosecuting the case. For further information, please contact Chief Assistant Prosecutor McCann jmccann@passaiccountynj.org.

A criminal complaint is merely an accusation. Despite this accusation, the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.