

## STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission 111 Israel Road SE, MS 47864 Tumwater, WA 98504

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **NCQAC Contact:**

Catherine Woodard
Director of Discipline and WHPS
catherine.woodard@doh.wa.gov

## Nursing Commission names schools associated with Florida investigation and denies related nursing applications (update)

**July 21, 2023, Tumwater, WA** – In conjunction with an ongoing investigation into the legitimacy of multiple Florida-based nursing schools, the Washington state Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC) takes action to rescind licenses or deny applicant licenses associated with certain Florida-based nursing schools.

These schools have been identified as participants in the scheme to issue fraudulent nursing diplomas and supporting documents through a federal investigation known as *Operation Nightingale*. The federal agents involved in *Operation Nightingale* advise nursing regulatory bodies to carefully review any license applications associated with graduates of these programs:

- Carleen Health Institute
- Carleen Home Health School II
- Ideal Professional Institute, Inc.
- Jay College of Health LLC
- Med-Life Institute West Palm Beach
- Med-Life Institute of South Florida
- Med-Life Institute School of Nursing
- Palm Beach School of Nursing
- Quisqueya Health Care Academy
- Quisqueya School of Nursing

- Sacred Heart International Institute Inc.
- Siena College of Health
- Siena College of Health II LLC
- Siena Education Center LLC
- Sigma College
- Sigma Institute of Health Careers
- Sunshine Academy
- Techni-Pro Institute
- The Enfimye Institute

NCQAC has denied the following applicant for RN licensure in Washington state with academic credentials from identified Florida-based nursing school on the basis of failure to prove qualifications for licensure:

• Soko, Miatta

NCQAC will update the list of actions to rescind licenses or deny applications on a weekly basis, or when such actions become final.

Employers are encouraged to verify the license of any new or existing employee through the <u>DOH Provider</u> Credential Search.

See our previous news releases and get the <u>full list of updated names and actions</u> on our website.

**Public Health** – Always Working for a Safer and Healthier Washington