



STATE ATTORNEY

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STATEMENT FROM STATE ATTORNEY KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE

As a prosecutorial office, we deeply appreciate your desire to be involved in the Criminal Justice system. Citizen involvement is essential in the fight against crime. We encourage it since police and prosecutors cannot win the battle against crime without such assistance.

The events at the Hialeah abortion clinic are the subject of an ongoing criminal investigation and, as such, cannot be discussed since doing so is improper and could damage what we have worked so hard to accomplish for two long years. Let me assure you that we have always taken this matter extremely seriously. If we did not, we would not have expended the time and valuable resources we already have used to conduct this investigation. We have assigned three of our most senior and most experienced attorneys to handle the investigation and assisting them are the highly trained professionals in the Hialeah Police Department.

Existing Florida laws, the rules we must work under, create a number of technical issues and burdens that must be addressed and answered. If we did not address these highly technical questions, we would not be doing our job properly. This is the process we are presently engaged in.

While we understand the emotional perception that this is an "easy matter", nothing could be further from the truth. The legal and ethical requirements that we be able to prove a case beyond a reasonable doubt dictate that we thoroughly complete our investigation before we come to a legal decision in this matter.

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