

The Henderson County Sheriffs' Office confirms the arrest of a county employee who was working at the "Health Department" of Henderson County. Grasuela "Gracie" Lopez Rios 50 years of age was charged with Obtaining Property by False Pretenses. The arrest was the result of an undercover operation that was conducted to verify claims that she was selling services, medications, or other devices illegally from the department where she worked as an interpreter.

The Sheriffs Office was notified of suspected improprieties concerning Rios, by officials of the Henderson County Department of Public Health who requested that the Sheriff conduct an investigation into the matter. According to Sheriff Rick Davis, "Henderson County agencies and departments hold themselves to a very high standard and we appreciate the diligence with which the officials of that department assisted us with these concerns. It is always difficult and painful to suspect an employee to be guilty of any malfeasance."

At this time, we will not release the details of the investigation. Any evidence obtained will be presented in court at the proper time. Ms. Rios was charged with Obtaining Property by False Pretenses. She was placed under a \$1000.00 dollar bond and will have a first appearance in court on September 11th.

The Henderson County Sheriff does ask that any persons who suspect that they may have unwittingly paid for services or products that would normally be dispensed free of charge, contact the Sheriffs' Office. The point of contact is Captain Steve Carter @ 828) 694-2793

Ms. Rios is 50 yoa and her address is 67 Hawk Meadow Drive, Edneyville

