

# 2024 Regulatory Actions

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## Abortion Clinics

Prepared by the Agency for Health Care Administration  
pursuant to section 390.012(8), Florida Statutes



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## Executive Summary

The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) is the chief health policy and planning entity for Florida<sup>1</sup>. Its responsibilities include, in part; health facility licensure, inspection, and regulatory enforcement including investigation of consumer complaints related to health care facilities and managed care plans.

Section 390.012(8), Florida Statutes (F.S.), directs the Agency to submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives summarizing all regulatory actions taken by the Agency during the prior year on abortion clinics. Actions include licensure application reviews, inspections, collection of Induced Termination of Pregnancy (ITOP) reports, and administrative actions.

From January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, the Agency:

- Received 30 licensure applications;
- Conducted 167 on-site inspections;
- Received 100% of the required ITOP reports from licensed abortion clinics;
- Initiated 6 administrative actions.

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<sup>1</sup> S. 20.42, F.S.

## Background

In Florida, an abortion may only be performed by a licensed physician<sup>2</sup> in a licensed abortion clinic, licensed hospital, or in a physician's office.<sup>3</sup> All abortions, regardless of facility or procedure type, shall be reported to the Agency.<sup>4</sup> The Agency is responsible for the regulatory oversight of abortion clinics and hospitals.

Pursuant to state law, the Agency issues an abortion clinic license to applicants meeting the minimum requirements found in Chapter 390, F.S and Rule 59A-9, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The law states that abortion clinics are authorized to perform procedures within the first trimester only unless the additional licensure requirements for second trimester procedures are met. An abortion may not be performed in any facility type after the gestational age of six weeks unless the conditions in section 390.0111, F.S. are met. Third trimester abortions and abortions during viability may only be performed in a hospital, and must also comply with the requirements in sections 390.0111 and 390.01112, F.S.

During calendar year (CY) 2024 Florida had 51 abortion clinics licensed to perform procedures located in 16 counties. For comparison, 52 abortion clinics were in operation during CY 2023. There were a total of 40 hospitals and 3 physician offices that reported performing procedures.

**Table 1. Licensed Abortion Clinics by County and City**

County	City	1st Trimester Only	1st & 2nd Trimester
ALACHUA	GAINESVILLE	1	1
BROWARD	FORT LAUDERDALE	1	1
	HOLLYWOOD		1
	MIRAMAR		1
	PEMBROKE PINES	1	
	PLANTATION	1	
	TAMARAC		1
COLLIER	NAPLES		1
DUVAL	JACKSONVILLE		3
HILLSBOROUGH	TAMPA		6
LEE	FORT MYERS		1
LEON	TALLAHASSEE	1	1
MIAMI-DADE	HIALEAH	1	3
	MIAMI	2	6
	MIAMI GARDENS		1
ORANGE	ORLANDO		2
OSCEOLA	KISSIMMEE		1
PALM BEACH	WEST PALM BEACH		2
PINELLAS	CLEARWATER		2
	SAINT PETERSBURG		3
POLK	LAKELAND		1
SARASOTA	SARASOTA		2
SEMINOLE	ALTAMONTE SPRINGS		1
ST. LUCIE	FORT PIERCE		1
	PORT SAINT LUCIE	1	
Totals		9	42

<sup>2</sup> S. 390.0111(2)

<sup>3</sup> S. 797.03, F.S.

<sup>4</sup> S. 390.0112, F.S.

## License Activity

### Applications

During the CY 2024, the Agency received 30 abortion clinic applications. Of those 25 applications were to renew existing licenses, 4 applications were to change existing licenses, and 1 application was for initial licensure. The change applications included 1 personnel change, 1 change of address, and 2 to terminate a license. There was 1 initial licensure application. No change of ownership (CHOW) applications was received.

In addition, in October 2024, the Agency issued a final order denying an initial licensure application for a new abortion clinic in Pensacola, Florida. The Agency found that the applicant's controlling interests had a demonstrated pattern of deficient performance based on their operation of an abortion clinic in another state.

**Table 2. Abortion Clinic Applications Received During the 2024 Calendar Year**

Application Type	Completed	Pending	Withdrawn	Denied	Totals
Initial	0	1	0	0	1
Renewal	24	1	0	0	25
Change	3	1	0	0	4
CHOW	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30</b>

### Inspections

The Agency conducts an inspection for compliance with Chapter 390, F.S., and Rule 59A-9, F.A.C., prior to initial licensure and annually thereafter. The Agency also investigates complaints against abortion clinics and allegations of unlicensed activity. There were no allegations of unlicensed activity in 2024.

The Agency initiated 39 licensure and 128 complaint inspections at licensed abortion clinics during CY 2024 requiring 182 total on-site visits, including follow up visits, if needed. Deficiencies were identified during 19 of the licensure inspections and 10 complaint investigations. Refer to Table 3 for a list and frequency of the deficiencies identified during the year.

Upon notification of a deficiency, clinics have 10 calendar days to submit an acceptable plan of correction. The Agency reviews each plan to determine if the deficiencies are corrected. All deficiencies cited were corrected and no other action was taken by the Agency.

**Table 3. Deficiencies Cited During the 2024 Calendar Year**

Citation ID	Regulatory Reference	Description of Findings	Times Cited
A0150	59A-9.0225(1), F.A.C.	Failed to ensure medications were current for emergency use	3
A0155	59A-9.0225(6), F.A.C.	Failed to ensure ultrasound equipment was available in the clinic	1
A0156	59A-9.0225(7), F.A.C.	Failed to ensure all equipment maintenance documents were available for inspection	1
A0201	59A-9.023, F.A.C.	Failed to have a position description for each position	1
A0202	59A-9.023(4-5), FAC	Failed to ensure all personnel records were complete	1
A0250	59A-9.024, F.A.C.	Failed to ensure policy and procedure manuals were available for inspection	1

A0301	59A-9.025(2), F.A.C.	Failed to maintain its federal Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certificate	1
A0359	390.0111(1), F.S.	Failed to ensure patients' record had the appropriate physician certification	2
A0360	390.0111(1), F.S.	Failed to ensure patients' record had the appropriate physician certification	2

**Table 3. Deficiencies Cited During the 2024 Calendar Year - Continued**

Citation ID	Regulatory Reference	Description of Findings	Times Cited
A0362	390.0111(3)(a), F.S.	Failed to ensure all patient records were complete	1
A0400	59A-9.027, F.A.C.	Failed to ensure all personnel records were complete	1
A0550	59A-9.030, F.A.C.	Failed to ensure fetal remains were removed from the facility timely	1
A0600	59A-9.031(1), F.A.C.	Failed to maintain complete and organized clinical records	2
Z813	59A-35.090(3)(c), F.A.C.	Failed to ensure all personnel records were complete	2
Z814	435.12(2)(b), F.S.	Failed to ensure the background screening clearinghouse roster was complete	3
Z816	59A-35.090, F.A.C.	Failed to ensure all personnel records were complete	4
Z818	408.810(5) F.S.	Failed to ensure client notices were complete	1
Z824	408.811 F.S.	Failed to ensure all requested medical records were provided for inspection	1

## Required Reporting

### Induced Termination of Pregnancy (ITOP)

All licensed abortion clinics must file a report each month summarizing the number of and reason for abortions performed during the preceding month. Hospitals and physicians must also report any abortions performed in their medical facilities and offices. The Agency posts year-to-date data, including previous calendar years on the Agency's website. The reports may be viewed at:

[http://ahca.myflorida.com/MCHQ/Central\\_Services/Training\\_Support/Reports.shtml](http://ahca.myflorida.com/MCHQ/Central_Services/Training_Support/Reports.shtml).

The chart below shows the number of abortions performed by provider type by trimester.

Provider Type	Total	1st Trimester	2nd Trimester	3rd Trimester	Infant Born Alive
Abortion Clinic	59869	56897	2655	0	0
Hospital	138	30	17	3	4
Physician	748	728	20	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>60755</b>	<b>57655</b>	<b>2692</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

## Incident Reports

Abortion clinics licensed to perform second trimester abortions must record any incident resulting in serious injury to a patient or viable fetus. The incident must be reported to the Agency within 10 days of its occurrence through a secure online portal. A serious injury is defined as one that creates a serious risk of substantial impairment of a major bodily organ. An abortion clinic must also report a patient's death to the Department of Health not later than the next workday. No deaths were reported during CY 2024. A summary of the incident reports include:

- Number of clinics reporting an incident: 7
- Number of incident reports received: 10
- Number of injuries reported: 14
  - Hemorrhage/excessive bleeding: 5
  - Perforation of the uterus: 2
  - Cervical injury: 1
  - Other incidents that required specialized medical attention: 6

Note: Multiple injuries may be reported for a single incident, such as hemorrhage/excessive bleeding and any condition that requires transfer. Nine individuals were transferred to a hospital for follow up care.

## Administrative Actions

The Agency may fine an abortion clinic up to \$1,000 for each class 1, class 2, or unclassified violation of chapters 390 or 408, Part II, F.S., or applicable rules, except for failing to timely file a monthly ITOP. That violation will result in a \$200 fine. Prior to levying a fine the Agency considers several factors, including:

- Severity of the violation (actual or potential harm to a patient);
- Actions taken by the clinic to correct the situation;
- The clinic's history of the same or similar violation; and
- The Agency's history of fine amounts for the same or similar violation.

Administrative actions taken by the Agency during calendar year 2024 include:

- Six ITOP late fines.
- Four license renewal applications were assessed late fees in accordance with s. 408.806(2)(d), F.S.

## Appendix 1

**Agency for Health Care Administration**  
Reported Induced Terminations of Pregnancy (ITOP) by Reason, by Trimester  
**2024 - Year to Date**

Reason	Total	1st Trimester	2nd Trimester	3rd Trimester
Elective Abortion	44627	42613	2014	0
Abortion Performed due to Social or Economic Reasons	13273	12679	594	0
Abortion Performed due to Emotional/Psychological Health of the Mother	1295	1217	78	0
Abortion Performed due to Physical Health of Mother that is not Life Endangering	825	771	54	0
Abortion Performed due to a Life Endangering Physical Condition	121	81	40	0
Abortion Performed due to Serious Fetal Genetic Defect, Deformity or Abnormality	303	185	117	1
Abortion Performed due to Incest	7	7	0	0
Abortion Performed due to Rape	100	85	15	0
Abortion Performed due to Victim of Human Trafficking	2	1	1	0
Abortion Performed due to Fatal Fetal Abnormality	202	16	184	2
<b>Florida Totals:</b>	<b>60755</b>	<b>57655</b>	<b>3097</b>	<b>3</b>



**Agency for Health Care Administration  
ITOP Report of Infants Born Alive**

**Reporting Period** = 2024 - Year to Date

**Total Cases** = 4

## Appendix 3

### Agency for Health Care Administration Reported Induced Terminations of Pregnancy (ITOP) Total Cases by Patient County of Residence

2024 - Year to Date    Total Cases = 60755

County Name	Total
Alachua	648
Baker	42
Bay	303
Bradford	27
Brevard	821
Broward	7979
Calhoun	24
Charlotte	201
Citrus	148
Clay	315
Collier	620
Columbia	129
Dade	12998
Desoto	49
Dixie	25
Duval	2898
Escambia	251
Flagler	163
Franklin	*
Gadsden	105
Gilchrist	*
Glades	26
Gulf	*
Hamilton	22
Hardee	28
Hendry	88
Hernando	273
Highlands	133
Hillsborough	5591

**Agency for Health Care Administration  
Reported Induced Terminations of Pregnancy (ITOP)  
Total Cases by Patient County of Residence**

2024 - Year to Date    Total Cases = 60755

County Name	Total
Holmes	*
Indian River	272
Jackson	45
Jefferson	*
Lafayette	*
Lake	573
Lee	1558
Leon	950
Levy	49
Liberty	*
Madison	30
Manatee	745
Marion	609
Martin	220
Monroe	67
Nassau	76
Okaloosa	199
Okeechobee	61
Orange	3707
Osceola	922
Palm Beach	4063
Pasco	977
Pinellas	2450
Polk	1713
Putnam	90
St Johns	277
St Lucie	741
Santa Rosa	91
Sarasota	583

**Agency for Health Care Administration  
Reported Induced Terminations of Pregnancy (ITOP)  
Total Cases by Patient County of Residence**

2024 - Year to Date    Total Cases = 60755

County Name	Total
Seminole	818
Sumter	60
Suwannee	58
Taylor	28
Union	*
Volusia	846
Wakulla	41
Walton	69
Washington	*
Out of State	3754