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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### RABIID RACCOON ATTACKS DOG IN OCEAN RIDGE

OCEAN RIDGE, FL—A raccoon that attacked a dog earlier this week was confirmed to be rabid by the Florida State Laboratory in Lantana today.

The dog, a miniature Doberman, was not current with its rabies shots and faces mandatory six months of isolated quarantine. The dog's owners and the treating veterinarian are being evaluated for contact with fluids from the raccoon left on the dog. The Palm Beach County Health Department may require these contacts to complete the rabies shot series as a precaution.

Rabies is a deadly viral disease that can be prevented but not cured. The virus attacks the nerves and brain tissue of warm blooded animals including people.

Persons who may have come in contact with a raccoon in the area should contact the Palm Beach County Health Department at 561-840-4500.

Domestic animals, dogs, and cats, over four months of age are required to be vaccinated against rabies and wear a current rabies license tag. Rabies shots are available through a veterinarian or by calling Animal Care and Control at 561-233-1200.

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