

# BUSINESS



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## TELEVISION

### Mid-makeover, woman sues over canceled show

■ A South Dade woman sues Univisión after the network canceled a total makeover it had promised her.

BY CHRISTINA HOAG  
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Not even Mileydis Domínguez's husband had seen her without her dentures before she appeared on Univisión's *Despierta América* morning show last year.

"Never, in five and a half years of marriage, never," said the 34-

year-old Cuban immigrant. "Many, many people didn't know I wear dentures."

The reason the South Dade housewife exposed her embarrassingly empty mouth on national TV? She had won \$50,000 worth of dental work as part of a drastic body makeover for a *Despierta América* segment called *Cambio Total*.

But her illusions of gaining a smile worthy of a toothpaste

\*TURN TO MAKEOVER, 6C

## TELEVISION | FROM THE FRONT

### Univisión sued over canceled show

\*MAKEOVER, FROM 1C

commercial, a velvety smooth complexion and a svelte figure were dashed this spring when Univisión abruptly canceled the show — after she had started the treatments, she said.

"I cried night after night after night," said the mother of two little girls. "They made a mockery out of me. They really built up my hopes, painting a big picture of all the things they were going to do."

Domínguez sued Univisión on Wednesday in Miami-

Dade Circuit Court to force the network to turn over all documents relating to the show for a possible breach of contract lawsuit. Univisión so far has refused to turn over any information.

"We're not asking for money at this time, we're just asking for documents," said her lawyer Tomás F. Gamba, of Coral Gables firm Gamba & Lombana.

A Univisión spokeswoman had no comment.

Domínguez was one of two contestants chosen for a total makeover in the second edition of *Cambio Total* after she

sent in a letter and photos to the network. "I was very depressed. I wanted to look good for my husband; he's 30," she said.

To her surprise, a reporter knocked on her door last August and announced that she had won a makeover including dental work, breast enhancement, a tummy tuck, hip and thigh liposuction, varicose vein treatment, Botox, designer dresses and a new coiffure.

Univisión filmed Domínguez at home and in doctors' offices. *Despierta América* featured her live as

well as photos of parts of her body and physicians discussing them.

She got the preparatory lab workup for the plastic surgery, underwent Botox injections and attended dental consultations.

Two days before her first plastic surgery, a producer called and said the whole thing was off.

"No reason was given," the lawsuit states.

"What bothers us is that this is preying on vulnerable people," Gamba said. "To not give her an explanation and treat her like dirt is not right."