



ARIZONA REGISTRAR of CONTRACTORS

Janice K. Brewer, Governor

William A. Mundell, Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 19, 2011
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Media Advisory

Curtis William Batho – Pled guilty to theft and attempted forgery after investigation by the Arizona Registrar of Contractors

In September 2011, Curtis William Batho pled guilty in the Mohave County Superior Court to theft and attempted forgery relating to his unlicensed contracting activities. The sentence included:

- 1.5 years incarceration, and
- \$6,800 in restitution.

Mohave County prosecuted Batho after an investigation and referral from the Arizona Registrar of Contractors for contracting without a license. Batho commonly advertised on Craigslist soliciting work to install new air conditioning units. After being paid, Batho would install used and worn out units, remove vital components from the air conditioning units, or otherwise fail to perform work as agreed in the contract.

“Protecting the people of Arizona from illegal contracting is our top priority”, said William Mundell, Director of the Arizona Registrar of Contractors.

The Registrar of Contractors advises homeowners to protect themselves against fraudulent contractors by

- Consulting the Arizona Registrar of Contractors, www.azroc.gov , to ensure the contractor is licensed.
- Asking for written estimates from at least three contractors.
- Requesting a list of references, and checking them before agreeing to hire anyone.
- Making sure the scope of the project, the price, the responsibility to obtain building permits, and any other relevant terms are spelled out in a written contract.
- Avoiding contractors who require large upfront payments.
- Never allowing yourself to be hurried into making a decision. No reputable contractor will pressure you into a quick hiring decision.

Other tips about hiring qualified contractors can be found at www.azroc.gov .

For more information or to request an interview with Director Mundell, contact Tyler Palmer, Public Information Officer of the Arizona Registrar of Contractors at (602) 771-6710.

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