



New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department

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Former Owners of Albuquerque Construction Firm Sent to Prison for Stealing from Homeowners & Tax Evasion

ALBUQUERQUE – The former owners of Scott Construction Inc. in Albuquerque were sent to prison for stealing over \$2 million from homeowners to support their lavish lifestyles.

Scott Everett and his wife Marie were sentenced to six years and 364 days, respectively, by District Judge Denise Barela-Shepard on Thursday. Scott Everett pled guilty to six counts of fraud, and one count each of forgery, conspiracy to commit fraud and tax evasion. Marie Everett pled guilty to one count each of fraud, conspiracy and tax evasion. The couple also was ordered to be placed on five years' probation each after they are released from prison and pay restitution to the victims and the State.

“This is a classic case of contractors running amok,” said J. Dee Dennis, Jr., Superintendent of the State Regulation & Licensing Department. “We have zero tolerance for these kinds of individuals and we’ll prosecute these cases vigorously and to the full extent of the law. Citizens of New Mexico need to know that there is not a law requiring them to pay contractors before services are rendered and by doing so put themselves at risk of timely and quality performance.”

The New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department’s Tax Fraud Investigations Division also assisted in the investigation involving the Everetts not paying in excess of \$130,000 in gross receipts tax that went unreported for performing construction services. “These individuals were not only stealing from their customers, but also stealing from the taxpayers of New Mexico,” said Taxation & Revenue Secretary Demesia Padilla. “This case should serve as a reminder that we will aggressively pursue those who don’t want to pay their fair share of taxes to the State.”

The Everetts took money from homeowners to complete home construction projects, but failed to finish the work. The couple stole over \$2 million from six different homeowners in Albuquerque. They spent the money on overseas vacations, Super Bowl tickets, buying expensive cars and paying for their

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children's college tuitions. A restitution hearing before Judge Barela-Shepard is scheduled for Sept. 26 of this year.

The Regulation and Licensing Department's Construction Industries Division received a homeowner complaint about Scott Construction and initiated an investigation that unraveled the Everetts' scam.

The couple was indicted in July of 2008. Late last year, both pled guilty to felony charges.

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