



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
Regulated Industries Complaints Office

DCCA News Release

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STATE ISSUES CONSUMER WARNING ABOUT UNLICENSED PAVER ON O`AHU

HONOLULU -- The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) Regulated Industries Complaints Office (RICO) is issuing a warning to consumers and businesses about a group of related individuals that may be offering to repave driveways and perform other home renovation work on O`ahu, most recently in the Kailua and Vineyard/Palama areas.

“We have received credible evidence that George Stanley and related individuals have relocated here from the mainland and are engaged in unlicensed contracting activity and other conduct that is similar to conduct that took place in other states,” said Jo Ann Uchida, RICO’s complaints and enforcement officer.

According to a press release issued by the Contractors State License Board of California (CSLB), George Stanley, 29, pleaded “no contest” to one felony count of grand theft by false pretenses on September 30 in Tulare County, California. Thereafter, he turned himself in to authorities in Chester County, Pennsylvania on a warrant that alleges theft by unlawful taking or disposition, receiving stolen property, criminal conspiracy, deceptive or fraudulent business practices, theft by deception, manufacture, deliver, possess with intent to deliver a controlled substance and knowingly or intentionally possess a controlled or counterfeit substance. The Pennsylvania warrant alleges that Stanley and his cousins Kevin Snow and George Snow drugged an elderly man in Pennsylvania and scammed him for \$22,000.



George Stanley

The press release also states that CSLB investigators believe that Stanley conned dozens of Californians, including many elderly, of at least a half-million dollars. Stanley's and his extended family's scheme involved approaching home or business owners, stating they had leftover asphalt from another paving job, and that they could resurface driveways or fill potholes for a "good deal." The so-called "deal" generally ended up costing much more than the quoted price and the work often crumbled within days or weeks.

Uchida noted that these individuals may be using other names, including the names of licensed contractors, and other names such as W. Stanley Paving, William Stanley Sam Stanley and Brian Gifford.

Anyone with information about possible unlicensed activity by this group is urged to contact RICO at 587-3222 on O`ahu or at 800-394-1902 (toll free).

RICO's Tips for Consumers

1. Hire a licensed contractor. Check licensure and complaints history at www.businesscheck.hawaii.gov or by calling 587-3222. Ask to see the contractor's **Hawai'i** pocket license card and photo identification.
2. Be wary of deals that sound too good to be true. They usually are. Be especially skeptical of persons who show up at your door and offer to perform paving or roofing work with leftover materials from another job.
3. Pay as you go. Set a payment schedule that follows the amount of work completed and avoid paying the contract amount up front. Do not pay in cash.
4. Get it in writing. Licensed contractors will provide you with a written contract for work to be performed. The contract should include the contractor's license number, the price of the job, the start and completion date of the job, the work to be performed and the materials to be used.

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