

Deadline Today for Platinum Paving

Written by Steve Frank
Tuesday, 13 July 2010 09:22



Today is the deadline for Platinum Paving to respond to the North Carolina Attorney General's Office of Consumer Affairs over allegations of scamming customers. Meanwhile there have been more calls on my series, 'Predatory Paving,' and we continue to ask for you to tell of your experience—good or otherwise.

A local business operator wrote me Monday night:

"I am just writing in regards to your articles on paving and would like to share an experience we had last summer. We have a local business in Boone and have had a paving company from TN come in quite a bit. One day he came in and said he had a little left over and would fix the small area in our driveway. Well we told him it could not cost a lot, well to our surprise he gave us a bill for \$13,000.00 and told him we would not pay that amount and settled for less than half of that. The next day our neighbor (an older gentleman) came to us and started questioning our driveway as the guy came to him and was patching pot holes and ended up charging him almost \$6,000.00. They are on a fixed income and were destroyed by that amount. I immediately told him to contact the DA as I felt they were extorting the elderly. Nothing could be done at that time through the DA. So I suggested he stop payment on one of the checks and negotiate with him. The paving company did contact him and was able to work out a lower amount. The job they did was not very good and the paving is coming up. Please keep on notifying people so they are aware of these certain companies."

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We will do just that. The cure for these scams is easy: get an estimate in writing—get two. Get them from local companies. Ask your neighbors. The common theme among callers continues to be embarrassment—embarrassed that they were caught with their guard down and became victims. There is information on how to contact me on the story on GoBlueRidge.net, and I'd love to hear of your paving experiences—and we're having callers pass information along to the North Carolina Attorney General's office of Consumer Affairs. The contact there is:

Linda Matthews, Consumer Protection Investigator

NC Attorney General

1-877-566-7226

To contact me, use 828-414-1027 or sfrank@highcountryradio.net