

DRIVEWAY REPAIRS

Trap

Mr. T from Greenacres was tired of looking at his faded black top driveway. He remembered the flyer left at his front door, "Driveway Repairs...FREE estimates". He called and spoke with a nice guy who said he could come right over. The nice guy said he had some materials left over from another job and could do the job today for a *special cash* price. Mr. T, sensing a good deal, gave the go ahead. A half hour later, the job was done. However, after the first rain, the driveway's shiny black finish was gone. Mr. T called the business and was told, "The cellular number you have dialed is no longer in service" and Mr. T had no way to get in touch with Mr. Nice Guy.

Tips

Mr. T was looking to get the job done quick and cheap! He could have saved himself time and money by:

- Keep in mind that sealcoat asphalt driveway installation/repairs for 1 & 2 family homes do not need a permit, but pavers do.
- Being wary of anyone soliciting home repair work by distributing flyers.
- Always getting at least two written estimates. Verify that the business has an active city/county business tax receipt.
- Making sure the contract spells out the terms completely and shows the name of the business and street address.
- Never paying cash or a large upfront fee to "get more materials". You'll never see him again!
- Asking for proof of worker's compensation insurance. You may be responsible if someone gets hurt on your property.
- If someone comes to your door unsolicited and uses high pressure tactics, tell them no, close the door and call the Sheriff or your local police department.



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