

AG Schmidt: NE Paver Banned From Doing Business in KS

A Nebraska paver has been banned from doing business in Kansas and ordered to repay two northwest Kansas consumers, Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt said today.

Bobby J. Gillis of North Platte, Neb., doing business as Gillis Construction and Hot Rubber Seal/Coating, was ordered to repay a total of \$3,200 to consumers in Herndon and Oberlin for violations of the Kansas Consumer Protection Act. In addition, Gillis was banned from doing business in Kansas. District Judge Rebecca Crotty approved the default judgment yesterday in Shawnee County District Court after the defendant failed to answer the lawsuit filed by Schmidt's office in April.

Schmidt accused Gillis of engaging in door-to-door sales of home improvement services, including installation, sealing and repair of asphalt driveways. Gillis allegedly violated the Kansas Consumer Protection Act by failing to notify consumers of their three-day right to cancel the transaction, performing only a portion of the services agreed to and misrepresenting the quality of services performed.

Schmidt warned consumers to be especially cautious of door-to-door home repair sales, which claim to offer a good deal.

"As the summer construction season approaches, consumers should be on the lookout for these fly-by-night operations looking to make a quick buck," Schmidt said. "Consumers who are in need of driveway repairs should seek out local, reputable contractors, get multiple written estimates, and carefully check references before having any work done."

More tips on staying safe from home repair scams are available on the attorney general's consumer protection website at www.InYourCornerKansas.org.