

STATE OF KANSAS Tenth Judicial District OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Steve Howe, District Attorney
Consumer Protection Division

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Steve Howe Date: March 14, 2024

(Olathe, KS)

<u>JOHNSON COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY WARNS RESIDENTS AGAINST HOME REPAIR</u> <u>SCAMS FOLLOWING DAMAGING STORMS</u>

Johnson County District Attorney Steve Howe warns residents not to fall victim to insurance and home repair scams arising in the wake of Wednesday's damaging storms.

The District Attorney's Office urges residents to make direct contact with their insurance providers regarding damage to their homes. They should not give any personal information to individuals attempting to provide insurance and/or repair services door-to-door. Scammers may also make contact via unsolicited phone calls. Residents should be cautious when callers purport to know the homeowner's name and/or address.

Residents are advised to obtain home repair services from reputable local businesses. The business should provide a verifiable local phone number and address. Out-of-state vehicle tags and unmarked vehicles are often indications of transient merchants who travel to damaged areas, collect money for repair services, and then leave the area before completing the promised repairs.

Contractors offering significant home repair or roofing services are required to be licensed by Johnson County, and permits are likely required. Additionally, all roofing contractors must register with the State of Kansas and should be able to produce proof of registration to homeowners. If a contractor cannot produce the required licenses or is unable to obtain the required permits, residents should take their business elsewhere.

Residents may contact the Johnson County District Attorney's Consumer Hotline at 913-715-3003 with any questions or to report scams in their neighborhoods.

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