



ERIK NASARENKO District Attorney

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Settlement Reached for Illegal Disposal of Hazardous Waste

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that the District Attorney’s Office settled an unlawful hazardous waste disposal case with Charles MacQuiddy (DOB 08/12/62), of Camarillo, for \$15,000. MacQuiddy is a sole proprietor of and doing business as Chuck’s Custom Painting (Chuck’s) in Camarillo. The business illegally disposed waste solvents and paints into the municipal trash by failing to ensure each container of waste was completely empty as required by law. In 2018, civil penalties and a permanent injunction were issued against MacQuiddy for exceeding the allowable hazardous waste accumulation limits. These penalties were assessed when 3,250 pounds of ignitable and paint-related hazardous waste were found stored at his business in Camarillo. The 2018 permanent injunction required MacQuiddy to comply in the future with all provisions of the California Hazardous Waste Control Law.

In response to a citizen complaint, four hazardous waste audits of MacQuiddy’s trash were conducted between 2020, and 2021, by the District Attorney’s Office Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit. Unlawfully disposed paint and related hazardous wastes were found during the audits.

The settlement of \$15,000 is comprised of a \$5,361 civil penalty, \$4,134 in investigative costs to the District Attorney’s Office, and \$5,504 in costs recovery to the Ventura County Environmental Health Division. Injunctive terms in the settlement also require Chuck’s to comply with all applicable laws related to the proper disposal of hazardous wastes.

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The Ventura County District Attorney’s Office is the public prosecutor for the county’s 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 290 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.