

CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION

Criminal(301)932-3363

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DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

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Motor Vehicle(301)932-3370

CHILD SUPPORT(301)932-3355

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOME IMPROVEMENT SCAMMER SENTENCED

On July 18, Charles County Circuit Court Judge Amy J. Bragunier handed down sentences totaling 20 years to Troy Collins of Bryans Road. Collins pled guilty earlier this year to defrauding two sets of victims of nearly \$14,000 by offering to do home improvement. Collins had previously served three jail terms of thirty days each for acting as a home improvement contractor without a license. Judge Bragunier ordered Collins to serve the first ten years of the sentence and suspended the remainder in favor of five years' probation

Deputy State's Attorney Jerome Spencer, the primary prosecutor in the case, while commenting that this sentence sends the right message to those who commit fraud in Charles County, said "If you steal from our community, be prepared to go to prison." Spencer also praised Detective Elizabeth Clark of the Charles County Sheriff's Office and Renee Crawley of the Maryland Home Improvement Commission for their hard work and dedication in bringing Collins to justice.

State's Attorney Tony Covington said in a statement, "Ordinarily, defendant's engaging in these types of offenses do not get impactful sentences. Thank goodness Judge Bragunier saw Mr. Collins for what he is: a con man that repeatedly preyed on innocent and trusting citizens. My hope is that all of our Judges understand the tremendous damage these types of crimes cause our citizens and sentence the perpetrators accordingly".