



For Immediate Release, June 16, 2016

**Wichita, Kansas** – The financial crimes cases of two local men reached disposition this week.

A Wichita landscaper entered a plea Wednesday to felony theft for taking money and then not completing work for two Sedgwick County residents.

Ricky Moyer, 30, owner of Rick's Tree and Landscape, entered the plea midway through his bench trial before District Court Judge Jeffrey Syrios. As part of the plea agreement, Moyer will pay restitution to the victims in monthly payments. In exchange for the plea, the District Attorney dismissed two additional charges.

Moyer was accused of taking money up front for tree trimming, landscaping, concrete and construction work on homes in Derby and west Wichita in 2014 and 2015. In both cases, the homeowners said Moyer started the work but never completed the construction of sheds on the two properties. The victims reported that they hired Moyer after finding fliers posted in their neighborhoods.

Moyer is scheduled to be sentenced July 19. As part of the plea agreement, the District Attorney is asking that Moyer be placed on a five-year probation so he can repay all of the restitution. The victims reported combined losses of more than \$18,000. Moyer told the judge during the hearing that he was experiencing financial difficulties in his business, and he had made partial refunds to the victims.

The cases were investigated by the District Attorney's Consumer Protection Division and the Derby Police Department.

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On Tuesday, District Court Judge Bruce Brown sentenced a man to 38 months in prison for a series of identity thefts. Reu Chamberlain, 29 of Wichita, pleaded guilty in April to ten counts of identity theft, one count of forgery and one count of theft by deception. The incidents occurred between September 2015 and January 2016 in Wichita.

Chamberlain used personal identification information including social security numbers, credit card numbers, driver's license numbers and names to open credit accounts with local businesses throughout Wichita. The Wichita Police Financial Crimes Unit was able to identify Chamberlain with the help of employees at car dealerships, banks, jewelry stores, pawn shops and hotels. The court ordered Chamberlain to pay over \$11,000 in restitution to the victims.

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