

District Attorney Marc Bennett
18th Judicial District of Kansas



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Wichita, Kansas - A Wichita home builder was sentenced Wednesday on two felony thefts for defrauding homeowners of more than \$340,000 on their construction projects last year.

Brett Horth, 44, ran a company called Dream Life Homes and built homes in Andover, Pratt, Goddard, Colwich, Garden Plain, Park City, Derby and Wichita.

Horth pled guilty to two felony thefts related to losses to 11 victims totaling \$344,236.32. Horth was accused of misappropriating money from homeowners who thought the funds were being used to build their homes. Most of the thefts occurred last year.

Many of the homeowners reported to police that they had paid money to Horth to reimburse subcontractors for services such as flooring and concrete. Those homeowners were later contacted by the subcontractors who complained that they were never paid.

Judge Stephen Ternes ordered a five-year probation for Horth and placed him on a monthly \$300 payment plan. Ternes told Horth that he could order him to serve 16 months in prison if he violated his probation. Ternes also ordered that Horth not work in the home building business.

During the sentencing hearing, Horth said he was working as an assistant manager at a restaurant.

The criminal case was investigated by the Wichita Police Department and the Sedgwick County District Attorney's Consumer Protection division.

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