



LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Walt McNeil, Sheriff

2825 Municipal Way Tallahassee, FL 32304

www.leoncountysos.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Lt. Grady Jordan

Date: January 24, 2017

Be Aware of Fraudulent Paving Scams

The Leon County Sheriff's Office would like to take this opportunity to advise the public on how to avoid fraudulent paving scams. Here is a brief description and some tips provided by the Better Business Bureau.

Usually, the setup involves a less-than-trustworthy sales representative visiting your home claiming they have leftover materials from a previous paving job. They are looking for homes with cracked driveways and say they can take care of your driveway for a very large discount. The catch is that you have to pay upfront. From there, consumers have complained to the BBB about several issues.

Since the representative is using leftover materials, the quality of work is poor because there is normally not enough asphalt to adequately cover all the cracks. This causes uneven spreading, and a risk of further cracking of the consumer's driveway. The other issue consumers complain about is that the representative begins work, only to find out there is not enough asphalt to complete the job that same day. He or she will apologize and promise to return the next day to finish.

Consumers report the representatives never come back and the consumer is left with an unfinished driveway.

Often, consumers do not have a way to contact the representative or the company they work for because they were never given a business card or don't have an agreement in writing. To make sure this does not happen to you, here are a few red flags that you can look for in a driveway repair scam:

- **There are leftover materials from another job.** Professional asphalt contractors know, with great accuracy, how much paving material is needed to complete each project. Rarely will they have leftover material.
- **You are pushed to make a quick decision.** Trustworthy contractors will provide a written estimate that will be valid for days or weeks. It should specify in detail the work to be performed and the total price.
- **Cash-only sales.** Most reputable contractors will take checks or credit cards.



Lt. Grady Jordan, Public Information Officer

Office (850)606-3342

Jordang@leoncountyfl.gov

[@LeonSheriff](https://twitter.com/LeonSheriff)

facebook.com/leonflso/

Page 1 of 2



●**The company is from out of state.** Look at the truck the representative travels in. If it is unmarked or has an out-of-state license plate, be cautious. Even if the representative claims to have a local phone number, scammers can easily purchase disposable cell phones to provide a local number in the area they are soliciting.

(www.BBB.org)



Lt. Grady Jordan, Public Information Officer

Office (850)606-3342

Jordang@leoncountyfl.gov

[@LeonSheriff](https://twitter.com/LeonSheriff)

facebook.com/leonflso/

Page 2 of 2

