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MEDIA ALERT

Fake Contractor arrested for Fraud and Racketeering in Construction Scam
“Jack Daggs faces criminal charges for taking over \$250K from victims”
(For immediate release...)

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – Francine Giani, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Commerce, announced today that the Division of Consumer Protection and the Utah Attorney Generals’ Office issued second degree criminal charges against Jack Allen Daggs, of Heber City, for defrauding local and out of state victims. Daggs, age 54, was taken into custody October 5th for nine counts of Communications Fraud and one count of Racketeering. Criminal charges were filed by the Utah Attorney Generals Office on October 5th in Third District Court. If convicted Daggs could face a sentence of 1 to 15 years in state prison.

“Jack Daggs has a long history of taking consumers money,” said Francine Giani, “We hope this case encourages consumers to investigate who they’re doing business with before they sign that check.”

“House repairs can be the most frustrating time for any family and adding fraud to the mix is downright mean,” says Attorney General Mark Shurtleff. “That is why the state of Utah will do everything possible to bring phoney contractors to justice.”

According to charging documents, Daggs defrauded Utah and out of state consumers between September 2003 to present. He is charged with taking customers deposits, failing to complete contracted construction work, spending victim’s money on personal expenses and failing to pay subcontractors which in many cases resulted in homeowner liens. Among the charges it is alleged that Daggs was not licensed as a general contractor when he approached some of the victims with a log home building opportunity, that he continued taking customers’ money and conducting business as Technology Plus even after his business license expired in July 2005 and that he solicited business as Bearcat Contractors in February 2006 even though no such entity or license existed in state records. Daggs did not tell victims he owed over \$100,000 to former heating and air conditioning

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suppliers, and faced prior civil judgments. He also failed to disclose his prior criminal history which included charges of issuing bad checks, fraud, theft, theft by deception and alcohol related charges between March 1975 and January 2005. In addition, Jack Daggs was charged in 1997 for theft by deception in an automobile repair business where he took consumers money and then failed to complete services. Daggs pleaded guilty to one count of fraud and was placed on probation which was terminated in July 2001.

Consumers are urged to check out prospective contractors by looking up the "Buyer Beware" list on the Division of Consumer Protection website at www.dcp.utah.gov They can also look at the current status of a contractor's license through the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing website at www.dopl.utah.gov

Defendants are presumed to be innocent unless they enter a guilty plea or are found guilty in a court of law.

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