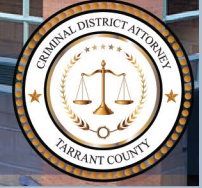


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Sharen Wilson CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY



Contact: Samantha Jordan, Communications Officer

O: 817.884.3120, C: 817.914.4600

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Monday, May 13, 2019

## **JURY SENTENCES CONTRACTOR CON TO 47 YEARS** ***Prosecutor: "This was a money grab"***

(Fort Worth) – A Tarrant County jury took less than an hour to convict 48-year-old Chad Alan Cappiello on multiple charges for stealing more than \$58,000 from six local residents in contractor scams, and then sentenced him to 47 years in prison for his crimes.

In each case, many of which involved elderly victims, Cappiello, operating under the business name Extreme Remodeling, agreed to complete home improvement projects in the victims' homes. Ranging from new windows to complete room overhauls, Cappiello had the victims sign contracts and pay half down, then refused to honor the agreements. In only one of the Tarrant County cases was any work even started.

Cappiello, aka "Chad Russell", has previous victims of similar construction scams in Jasper, Bell and Hopkins Counties, including a prior conviction in Hopkins. Tarrant County prosecutors called Hopkins County Judge Clay Harrison to testify about Cappiello's conviction there for stealing money from elderly homeowners. Harrison, who was at that time the Assistant District Attorney trying Cappiello's case, testified that even while Cappiello was awaiting his sentence in Hopkins County in May 2017, he was continuing to take down payments from Tarrant County victims for jobs he knew he would not be able to complete because he would be serving his Hopkins County sentence.

One of his previous victims, Delia Snider from Tyler, testified Cappiello stole over \$21,000 from her family after soliciting the contract to do a handicapped addition to their home to accommodate her elderly parents. The money for the construction came from the sale of her parents' home, and as in other cases, no work was ever done.

*"It was up to Tarrant County citizens to stop this man from moving on to the next town with a Cheshire cat grin on his face and his pocket filled with other people's money,"* said lead prosecutor John Newbern.

Cappiello was found guilty in the 213<sup>th</sup> District Court of Theft of Property Against the Elderly, \$30,000 – 150,000; Theft of Property, \$30,000 – 150,000; and Misappropriation of Fiduciary Funds Against the Elderly, \$30,000 - \$150,000. His sentence in Hopkins County ends on May 24<sup>th</sup>, when he will be transferred by the Texas Department of Corrections to begin serving this sentence. He was additionally sentenced to \$30,000 in fines.

*"This was a money grab,"* said prosecutor Nathan Martin. *"He didn't earn a thing. He stole it."*

## END ##