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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**CONTRACTOR SENTENCED FOR DECEPTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES**

El Paso County Attorney Jo Anne Bernal today announced the sentencing of an East-side remodeler accused of Deceptive Business Practices.

This morning 33-year-old Maiam De Campo received the maximum possible sentence after pleading guilty to 1 count of committing a Deceptive Business Practice, a crime of dishonesty punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a fine not to exceed \$4,000.

According to the police complaint, on April 28, 2007 De Campo charged an east-side home owner almost \$5,200 to remodel a bathroom, however the job was never done.

After accepting the guilty plea, County Court at Law #7 Judge Thomas Spieczny sentenced De Campo to 365 days in jail.

Additionally, De Campo pled guilty to a Class "A" Theft by Check charge after writing insufficient funds checks to two employees of his business "Maiam's Title and Construction." Those payroll checks were cashed by a local business that suffered the loss. De Campo was sentenced to a second 365 day concurrent sentence for the theft by checks.

El Paso County Attorney Jo Anne Bernal said this maximum sentence of one year in jail should serve as a message to others to deliver what they promise in the market place."

"Consumers and businesses alike suffer the loss of fraud." said Jo Anne Bernal.

“Our office prosecutes individuals who defraud merchants with bad checks and fraudulently take money from consumers,” Bernal finalized.

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