

Asbestos/Criminal Enforcement: U.S. Attorney (District of Connecticut) Announces Guilty Plea for Asbestos Removal



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The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut issued a May 23rd news release stating that Aleks Rakaj plead guilty to one count of illegal asbestos removal in violation of the Clean Air Act.

The alleged asbestos removal is stated to have taken place at a property in New Haven, Connecticut.

Mr. Rakaj and his two cousins were stated to have been informed by a realtor that a purchased property contained asbestos. Further, it is alleged that Mr. Rakaj and his cousins failed to "abide by laws and regulations concerning asbestos removal, resulting in exposure of those who were at the site to the negative health effects of asbestos."

An unannounced inspection is stated to have taken by place by the New Haven Health Department on November 20, 2015 at the relevant property. The inspectors are stated to have discovered the illegal asbestos removal. Such illegal removal is stated to have included asbestos-containing "air cell" pipe wrap and asbestos-containing "mag block" tank and boiler insulation. Also, 100-150 standard garbage bags filled with unlabeled, unwetted asbestos-containing material is stated to have been observed.

Mr. Rakaj is scheduled to be sentenced on August 15, 2019.

A copy of the news release can be downloaded [here](#).