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News Release

Contact:

Kristi Greiner

505-884-5583

kgreiner@pdr-usa.net

**Paul Davis Restoration and Remodeling provides property owners with tips for working with contractors
-Water damage from recent freezing weather prompts restoration and repair services-**

Albuquerque, NM – February 18, 2011 – John Sheriff and Kim Briggs, co-owners of [Paul Davis Restoration and Remodeling](#), are encouraging homeowners and commercial property management companies to research the many variables involved in restoration and repair services. As a public service for those who have experienced water damage from the recent freezing weather, Paul Davis is providing information to consumers about proper methods for water and flood emergency mitigation.

“We’d like to extend information to consumers if they’ve received improper methods for water and flood emergency mitigation, or if they’ve received no or poor follow through from contractors or repair services. We know this can lead to frustration on the part of property owners,” said Sheriff. “Most importantly, improper drying, clean-up and restoration methods can cause serious illnesses in the home,” he said.

According to Briggs, after proper water extraction, the next step in emergency restoration services is drying. Structural drying must occur inside and outside of the home. “Drying is a science which relies on the proper balance of four factors: extraction, dehumidification, air movement, evaporation and temperature control. This may include having holes drilled into walls behind base boards for cavity drying, and other methods,” said Briggs. “It’s important to ensure that affected wet areas are properly dried. By doing so, mold can be eliminated and therefore, won’t feed off of damp drywall, studs and joists,” he said.

“We recommend that property owners consider hiring a licensed contractor for repairs and carefully evaluate their circumstances with a qualified restoration expert. Choosing a restoration company to partner with requires more than a quick decision. It should include research and references,” said Sheriff.

“For example, ask your contractor if they have the skill set and certifications to handle the project. Also, inquire if they’re Lead-Safe Certified to work with paint and materials,” he said. “Also, ask about how many years they’ve been in the professional restoration industry. You can also take the time to personally visit the contractor’s office and look into their Better Business Bureau rating. Also, it’s totally appropriate to discuss restoration and repair options with your insurance company, the adjuster or agent,” he said.

Sheriff and Briggs are aware of roofers and other construction people who have recently travelled to Albuquerque disaster areas and claim they do restoration work. However, local property owners are being left with jobs that are improperly completed or not finished at all

“Incorrect procedures by some restoration companies are rampant in the area and property owners need to be aware and know what to watch for along with the right questions to ask,” Sheriff said. “It’s already been our experience that some of these companies don’t appear to be operating in everyone’s best interest. We’re hearing about the horror stories. We often go to fix these jobs which have suffered from bad work,” he said.

Sheriff recommends that consumers look for restoration tradesmen who provide professional services and who are certified and trained by authorities and experts in the profession. The latest and most proven emergency mitigation services, drying and clean up methods can be provided from companies with technicians who are certified by organizations such as the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification (IICRC).

“Whether insured or not, it is important for property owners to document damage with photographs or video, and immediately have a restoration professional begin correct loss mitigation procedures; or hire a qualified contractor to do the work,” said Briggs. “For example, with water and fire damage and other structural emergencies, it is totally inappropriate to put off emergency mitigation while waiting for an insurance claims representative to arrive on the scene to evaluate the loss. By that time, and in all probability, sufficient time will have passed to amplify problems which may not be covered by insurance,” he said.

“We hope that local consumers can learn to identify ‘gypsy contractors’. If consumers have any questions about improper work, they can contact us,” said Sheriff.

The Paul Davis office in Albuquerque has been serving customers for more than 20 years with emergency services including water clean-up, cleaning, pack-outs, and fire and wind damage for large and small losses. The company’s customer service scores show that more than nine out of 10 customers would recommend the Paul Davis office to a friend. Contact Paul Davis Restoration and Remodeling at 505-884-5583 or email newm@pdr-usa.net. Visit the website at www.pdalbuquerque.com.

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Paul Davis Restoration, Inc. is a leading provider of [fire, water and mold damage restoration](#), and reconstruction services for residential and commercial properties. Founded in 1966, Paul Davis Restoration has franchise office locations throughout the US. Visit the website at www.pdrestoration.com.