

PRESS RELEASE

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Maryland-based Home Improvement Contractor Ordered to Pay more than \$4.5 million in Penalties and Restitution

Optimum Construction, Inc., Optimum Interiors, Inc., and their Owner Entered into Home Improvement Contracts with Maryland Consumers but Failed to Finish the Work and Failed to Provide Refunds.

BALTIMORE, MD (June 18, 2025) – Attorney General Anthony G. Brown announced today that his Consumer Protection Division has issued a Final Order against Derwood-based Optimum Construction, Inc., Optimum Interiors, Inc., and their owner, Amr "Omar" Elrahimy, for violating the Consumer Protection Act when they promised home improvement goods and services to Maryland consumers and took deposits and payments from consumers for those goods and services but failed to finish their promised home improvement projects or provide refunds.

The Consumer Protection Division's Final Order requires Optimum Construction, Optimum Interiors, and Elrahimy to pay restitution in the amount of at least \$2,007,459.27 and penalties in the amount of \$2,452,000.00. The Final Order also prohibits Optimum Construction, Optimum Interiors, and Elrahimy from acting as a home improvement contractor or sales representative in Maryland unless they first post a surety bond with the Consumer Protection Division in the amount of \$1,000,000.00.

Optimum Construction, Optimum Interior and Elrahimy sent an unlicensed salesperson to consumers' homes, presented consumers with home improvement contracts that did not comply with Maryland law, and promised consumers that their home improvement projects would begin and be completed by certain deadlines. They then took deposits and payments from consumers but failed to use consumers' payments for the home improvement projects; rather, Elrahimy misappropriated the consumers' funds and used consumers' payments to fund a lavish personal lifestyle and for unrelated businesses. Optimum Construction, Optimum Interior and Elrahimy repeatedly misrepresented the status of consumers' projects, failed to complete the home improvement projects, and ultimately failed to issue refunds.

The Office of Administrative Hearings took testimony and evidence from 20 consumers who were victimized by Optimum Construction, Optimum Interiors, and Elrahimy. Based on the

record, the Consumer Protection Division found that Optimum Construction, Optimum Interiors, and Elrahimy repeatedly violated the Consumer Protection Act and owed these consumers at least \$2,007,459.27 for their losses.

Consumers with questions may call the Consumer Protection Division's hotline at (410) 528-8662.

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