



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Sue Lindsay
Public Information
303-835-5639

Susan Hinojosa Convicted of 23 Counts in Kitchen Remodel Scam

Susan Marie Hinojosa was convicted Friday on 23 counts of theft and check fraud charges in connection with a kitchen remodeling business she operated with her husband.

Hinojosa (DOB 08/13/57) and her husband, Herman Melvin Hinojosa, Jr., (DOB 06/24/44) were charged last year with 30 counts of theft, check fraud and theft from at-risk elder adults for taking funds for kitchen remodeling projects through their businesses Kitchens 4 Less and Kitchens 2 Go at 1015 E. 70th Avenue in Adams County. The charges involved 27 victims who lost more than \$140,000 in dealings with the Hinojosas from April 2012 and continued through November 20, 2013, when the Hinojosas filed for bankruptcy.

The Adams County District Court jury reached its verdict Friday morning after beginning deliberations on Thursday after a trial that began November 9.

Susan Hinojosa was convicted on five counts of theft from an at-risk elder adult, 15 counts of felony theft, one count of felony check fraud, one count of misdemeanor theft and one count of misdemeanor check fraud. She was acquitted on one count of theft from an at-risk adult and one count of felony check fraud. Some of the counts in the original charges were dismissed before trial.

Susan Hinojosa will be sentenced at 8:30 a.m. January 7 in Division Q of Adams County District Court. Herman Hinojosa is set for preliminary hearing at 9 a.m. February 10 in Division 3 of Adams County Court.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Robyn Cafasso and Deputy District Attorney Alex Baker told the jury that the Hinojosas required payment up front and then did little or no work. Deposits from customers were comingled with other funds and used for personal purposes. They took customers' money, promising dream kitchens and bathroom remodels that were never completed. In some cases, customers went without use of their kitchens and baths for months. Ultimately the customers had to pay other contractors to finish the jobs.

"This is one of the first major cases we investigated and prosecuted through our newly formed economic crime unit," said District Attorney Dave Young. "I'm very proud of the unit and the work of our prosecution team, and that we were able to achieve justice for the many victims of this crime."