



## **News Release – Home Improvement Scam Arrest**

In April of 2024, West Hartford Police Department personnel began an investigation into a possible Home Improvement Scam involving Rick Labelle and his business, Abel Construction and Remodeling LLC out of Tolland, CT. The homeowner reported that they hired Labelle for a project that was never completed, and sustained a financial loss of over \$100,000.

The case was assigned to the West Hartford Police Department Detective Division, who with the assistance of the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection (DCP), continued investigative efforts. During the course of the investigation, it was discovered that Abel Construction and Remodeling LLC had their contractor license revoked by DCP. WHPD personnel also discovered that Labelle altered several documents and provided the homeowner with fictitious receipts in an effort to deceive them. An arrest warrant was sought and approved, charging Rick Labelle for his involvement in this fraudulent scheme.

On 1/23/2025, Rick Labelle, 37 of Tolland, CT was charged with the following:

- 53a-122; Larceny 1<sup>st</sup> Degree.
- 53a-140; Forgery 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. (4 Counts).



Labelle is scheduled to appear in Hartford Superior Court today, 1/23/2025.

If any member of the public has any information regarding this incident, we ask that you please contact the West Hartford Police Department through the WHPD Tip Line/email at (860) 570-8969 / [whpdtips@westhartfordct.gov](mailto:whpdtips@westhartfordct.gov).

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