

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Court settles precedent setting solid waste case

(Las Vegas, Nev. – January 8, 2001) – The owners of Absolute Technologies, Inc. were found guilty of operating Grower’s Choice Soils, a solid waste facility, without a permit from the Clark County Health District and fined a record setting \$10,000 for this type of violation. This marks the first time a violation of the District’s solid waste management regulations has been settled in a municipal court.

Additionally, the owners, Jerry Finney, Sr., and Jerry Finney, Jr., are liable for a \$5,000 civil penalty to be assessed for each day of non-compliance, dating back to April 26, 2000. If found in violation of this order, the Finney’s could be liable for additional penalties that may exceed \$1.2 million.

Dr. Donald Kwalick, chief health officer, states, “When a facility such as this operates outside of our regulations there could be a variety of adverse health consequences. These health affects can range from minor nuisances such as odor, to more serious problems including potential fires, vector control issues and surface water pollution due to run-off.”

The Health District’s Environmental Health Division issued a cease and desist order to Absolute Technologies, Inc. in July 1999. The order included provisions to stop all operations, remove all waste materials and provide documentation for the proper disposal of any solid waste or the sale of any product. The company continued to operate the

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facility, and the Health District made the decision to pursue the matter in municipal court.

“This precedent setting decision should serve as notice to any similar solid waste businesses who may be operating without a permit,” said Kwalick. “The court’s decision reinforces the District’s authority to enforce regulations that are designed to protect both the environment and the public health of our community.”

The case was settled on Friday, January 5, 2001 in Justice Court before Judges Tony Abbatangelo and Jennifer Togliatti. Assistant District Attorney Susan Krisko, presented the case on behalf of the Health District.

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