



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

John J. Barthelmes, Commissioner

Division of Fire Safety
Office of the State Fire Marshal
J. William Degnan, State Fire Marshal



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DATE: April 3, 2015
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Jeffrey Cyr, Section Chief

Manchester Chimney Lining Fraud Investigation

New Hampshire State Fire Marshal J. William Degnan, Manchester Fire Chief James Burkush, and Manchester Police Chief David Mara, announce a mechanical licensing and fraud investigation at 292 – 294 and 304 Central Street in the City of Manchester, NH.

The Mechanical Licensing Unit of the New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office was asked to investigate a report of alleged unlicensed fuel gas fitting work at 292-294 Central Street in Manchester. Upon arrival, the responding mechanical inspector observed three men installing a chimney liner, which later proved to be attached to natural gas fuel fired appliances. The subsequent investigation involving the City of Manchester Fire Marshal's Office and Manchester Police Department revealed that none of the individuals involved were licensed to perform the fuel gas fitting portion of the work taking place.

Inspectors later discovered that the chimney lining work performed by *Greinke Chimney Services* was improperly installed, and missing several vital components required thus rendering the venting system of the building unsafe to operate. In addition, no required permits for installation and inspection were filed with the City of Manchester. A New Hampshire licensed fuel gas fitting company was called in to render the system safe to operate for the residents.

Marshal Degnan would like to warn all citizens of the dangers of improperly vented appliances and cautions everyone to make sure that the contractor they choose has the proper qualifications and respective licenses for the task at hand. If you have had any work performed by the *Greinke Chimney Services Company*, or have questions, you may contact the New Hampshire Consumer Protection Division at (603) 271- 3641 or the numbers listed below.

For Manchester residents; contact Peter Lennon, Fire Marshal, Manchester Fire Department at (603) 669-2256.

Any further inquiries can be directed to the NH State Fire Marshal's Office – Bureau of Building Safety, Inspector Marc Prindiville, or Chief Inspector Jeffrey Cyr at (603) 223-4289.