

TDLR issues fraud warning to cosmetology licensees

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) is alerting its more than 158,000 cosmetology licensees about a mailing from an organization calling itself "Professional Certification Service" (PCS) that targets professional cosmetologists with a request for payment for a supposed certification. "We want to make sure our cosmetology license population does not fall prey to fraudulent activity. This notice is meant to confuse and deceive as to exactly what a person sending \$53 of their hard-earned money will receive," says William Kuntz, Executive Director of TDLR. "Cosmetologists work hard and to have people scheme to steal their money is despicable. The letters, which have been reported in Tennessee and across the state of Texas, are under investigation by the Department."

TDLR is not connected to nor is it a party to the PCS notice. Cosmetology licensees who receive the notice should:

- Disregard the PCS notice;
- Renew their TDLR cosmetology license online at <http://www.license.state.tx.us/cosmet/cosmetforms.htm#online>;
- Warn co-workers there are thieves trying to take money from honest, law-abiding cosmetologists!

Ag boss makes request to supreme court on water rights case

Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples said the Texas Department of Agriculture filed an amicus letter brief, or formal comments, supporting private property owner rights in the Edwards Aquifer Authority and the State of Texas v. Burrell Day and Joel McDaniel case, pending before the Texas Supreme Court.

The Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) is proposing a law change that would leave existing and future groundwater users with limited or no ability to protect their investments or rights.

"Texans just passed Proposition 11 to protect the right to own land, and I am encouraging the court to uphold the laws that protect our groundwater," Commissioner Staples said.

"The Texas Department of Agriculture has a responsibility to ensure the court understands the potential impact of the Edwards Aquifer Authority's position on agriculture. If the court supports the EAA's position, landowners may lose ownership rights in the water beneath their land. The Texas Constitution and state law clearly recognize those rights and provide a regulatory framework to protect them."

Oral arguments were presented Wednesday at the Texas Supreme Court building in Austin.

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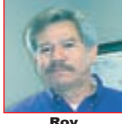






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