

## News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Owner order to clean up site and pay additional penalties**

(September 3, 2002) – The owner of Absolute Technologies, Inc., Jerry Finney, Sr., was found guilty today of violating a court order stemming from a landmark case involving a violation of the Clark County Health District’s solid waste management regulations and now faces penalties and possible jail time.

On January 5, 2001, Finney was found guilty of operating a solid waste facility without a health district permit and fined a record-setting \$10,000 for the violation. He was also ordered to halt operations, remove all solid waste to a permitted disposal site and clean up the property. This marked the first time a violation of district regulations was settled in a municipal court.

While Finney paid the fine and stopped operating the facility, he failed to clean-up the site. Today’s order by Judge Tony Abbatangelo calls for Finney to pay a \$1,000 criminal fine and a \$2,500 civil penalty by February 28, 2003. Finney has a 60-day jail sentence pending if the fines are not paid. Deputy District Attorney Susan Benedict presented the case on behalf of the health district.

Dr. Donald Kwalick, chief health officer for the health district said, “I applaud today’s court ruling. The order reinforces the authority of the District Board of Health to enforce solid waste regulations in Clark County.”

In further developments, the health district implemented a monthly Solid Waste Management Authority Hearing Officer process on March 27, 2002. To date, more than 90 cases of alleged violations of solid waste regulations have been adjudicated and over \$140,000 in penalties assessed.

For more information about the health district solid waste management program, or to report illegal operations or dumping, call 383-1027.

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