

May 13, 2015

Mr Mo Madani, Manager
Building Codes and Standards Office
1940 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida

REF: BRIEF OVERVIEW OF COMPLAINT AGAINST ZION TILE CORP FL# 16057 & 16057-R1

Dear Mr Madani.

On 9/20/12 a complaint was lodged against Zion Tile Corp / Alhambra NOA 07-8015.03 regarding Non-Compliant Roof Tile to a residence located at 3555 Flamingo Drive Miami Beach, Florida. As a result, an investigation was opened by Miami Dade County. Miami Dade notified Mr. Garcia, the owner of Zion Tile Corp not to distribute any product until conclusion of the investigation. Shortly after and having received this notification, Zion Tile Corp disregarded the notification and dispatched Non-Compliant tile to the notable and Historic Vanderbilt Mansion on the exclusive Fisher Island. As a direct result of this violation Miami Dade issued a Notice of Removal of the NOA 07-8015.03 on October 19, 2012 and the investigation concluded with the discovery of several roofs with non-Compliant Zion Tile Corp / Alhambra Roof Tile including but not limited to the residence located at 3555 Flamingo Drive.

The roof at 3555 Flamingo was partially incomplete until February 2013 when Florida #16057 Product Approval was issued and submitted with an invalid/fraudulent Quarterly Test Report Lab Report No. 121066 by Florida TEC dated May 8, 2013 to obtain a revision to the original City of Miami Beach roofing permit to continue with the same Non-Compliant Roof Tile (Identified as Non-Compliant by the Miami Dade Investigation). The Lab Test Report submitted with FL#16057 also bears the NOA#: 07-0815.03 that was removed in October 19, 2012 the year prior! The roof since then has been finalized by the City of Miami Beach using Non-Compliant tiles by Zion Tile Corp using the FL# 16057.

On 7/1/13 I notified Mr. Madani and the Coral Gables Building Official, Manny Lopez regarding the misuse of FL 16057.1 with a NON-COMPLIANT ROOF TILE loaded to the roof of a historical residence at the jobsite located at 641 San Lorenzo Ave. Coral Gables, Florida. As a result the roofing contractor, Coda Roofing was almost finished with the tile installation and was unable to complete the job with tile not conforming to the Florida Product Approval originally submitted to the AHJ. In a bid to complete the job, the roof contractor obtained a Miami Dade County "One Time NOA" in order to final the job permit. Yet again, C-1167 Lab Testing from Florida Roof TEC Lab Report# 121643A was used in the "One Time NOA", new Miami Dade NOA# 13-1113.07, Florida Engineer Product Evaluation Report by Mr. Gonzalez and the information furnished by the State of Florida POC Staff with different Lab Report dates. These and other very unusual anomalies are addressed in my 5/8/15 to Mr. Madani in regards to the documents furnished to me by the Florida POC Staff as a result of my official document request.

On 5/1/14 a new NOA# 13-1113.07 was granted to Zion Tile Corp. Since then, a new Miami Dade County investigation has been opened and closed regarding Non-Compliant Tiles used by Coda Roofing at very notable Historical Treasure called Venetian Pool in Coral Gables, Florida. The failing Lab Test Reports results were provided by Miami Dade County and Coral Gables authorities. 4 separate failing C-1167 tests from 3 different certified labs testing for the physical requirements proved that the results of ABSORPTION & PERMEABILITY reported as "passing" by Florida TEC raise some serious questions about this testing firm's ability/integrity at reporting the actual ABSORPTION & PERMEABILITY. There is also a separate complaint to Miami Dade regarding the use of multiple test reports with different dates one of which was posted on the Florida Product Web-Site by Florida TEC. This information has also been submitted to you.

On March 9, 2015, Miami Dade County Product Control in an attempt to "work" with Zion Tile Corp set some new requirements in order to maintain Zion tile Corp's NOA. Zion Tile Corp violated its terms again and on 4/27/14 was implicated in another complaint regarding 95,000+ Non-Compliant Zion Tile Corp/Alhambra Tiles on a 10 story luxury project in the Category "D" Zone at the Palazzo Del Sol at Fisher Island. If Zion Tile Corp loses their NOA again, it makes good business sense to try and use the Florida Approval again as the same trick that worked for them so well at 3555 Flamingo Drive. With the very long "DUE PROCESS" afforded by the Florida POC Board and the lack of supervision regarding obvious illegitimate documents submitted, The Florida Product Control can be used as a license to "STEAL" by unscrupulous individuals/companies.

Since the time I initiated my complaint, I have submitted extensive detail regarding multiple homes that have been affected by FL# 16057 & FL#16057-R1. The changes expected for the 2014 do not protect the consumer from Individuals/Companies intentionally manipulating Florida Approvals and Miami Dade County NOA's to sell Non-Compliant Products in general. All of the information provided here is backed up by hard facts furnished to the Florida POC Staff.

Sincerely,

Dan Arguelles

Artezanos Inc.