



*Office of the United States Attorney  
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, February 26, 2008

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**LANDSCAPING MATERIALS COMPANY TO PAY FEDERAL  
GOVERNMENT \$130,000**

*Unlawfully extracted mineral materials and damaged Native American archeological site*

PHOENIX – Pioneer Landscaping Materials, Inc., an Arizona landscape materials supplier, has agreed to pay the federal government \$132,835.76 as a result of Pioneer’s unauthorized excavation activities on public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Pioneer also agreed to obtain \$193,767 in bonds, which will be forfeited to pay the costs of rehabilitation, reclamation, and re-vegetation of damaged areas if Pioneer’s future mineral materials applications are rejected by the BLM.

The settlement agreement resolves allegations that Pioneer conducted unauthorized ground-disturbing activities on public land approximately eight miles east of Quartzsite, Ariz., and approximately one-and-a-half miles south of Interstate 10 off Gold Nugget Mine Road. The government alleged that Pioneer removed mineral materials without authorization and without paying for them, bladed unauthorized roads, destroyed saguaro cacti and other native vegetation, and damaged a Native American archeological site.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Land Management, Office of Law Enforcement and Security; the Bureau of Land Management Yuma Field Office; and the Department of Interior, Office of the Solicitor. The case was handled by Lon R. Leavitt, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-038(Pioneer)

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