



## **Fuel Contractor Pleads Guilty to Safety Violations**

*TSSA Cracks Down on Contractor Endangering Public*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Toronto, ON, April 30, 2013)** – TSSA’s ongoing crackdown on unqualified fuel contractors has netted one operating in the Greater Toronto Area.

The Ontario Court of Justice in Toronto levied fines totaling \$5,500 against a fuels contractor for violating safety regulations under the *Technical Standards and Safety Act, 2000*.

Fuels contractor Robert Brennan pled guilty to installing an unapproved natural gas water heater at 1050 Birchmount Road, Toronto (Vienna Fine Foods) and providing false information, producing a false pressure test tag after a leak was detected. The gas company shut off gas while the owner had to hire another contractor to fix the deficiencies. Brennan was fined \$5,500 plus the mandatory 25% victim surcharge for a total penalty of \$6,875.

Following investigations by the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA), Ontario’s public safety regulator responsible for fuels safety, Brennan pled guilty in court to contravening provincial safety regulations by installing an unapproved appliance and providing false information.

“These are serious violations of Ontario’s public safety rules that put the public in real danger,” said John Marshall, Director of TSSA’s Fuels Safety Program. “An unapproved natural gas water heater could easily lead to carbon monoxide poisoning that can kill or sicken unsuspecting residents,” added Marshall.

In Ontario, all technicians must ensure that fuel-related appliances are approved. Technicians must also possess valid TSSA certification, which ensures fuels contractors are properly trained and familiar with Ontario’s safety rules. TSSA reminds the public that any fuel-fired appliance should be installed, serviced and/or inspected by a TSSA-certified technician. If in doubt of a technician’s certification, contact TSSA toll-free at 1-877-682-8772.

### *About TSSA*

The Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) is an innovative, not-for-profit, organization dedicated to enhancing public safety. Throughout Ontario, TSSA regulates the safety of amusement devices, boilers and pressure vessels, elevating devices, fuels, operating engineers, ski lifts, and upholstered and stuffed articles. Its range of safety services include public education and consumer information, certification, licensing and registration, engineering design review, inspections, investigations, safety management consultation, and enforcement and prosecution activities. The organization’s vision is to be a valued advocate and recognized authority in public safety.

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For more information on the Technical Standards and Safety Authority, please visit [www.tssa.org](http://www.tssa.org).

April 30, 2013