# TOP GDS<sup>\*</sup> TECHNICIAN CHARGED WITH MULTIPLE FELONIES **CHARGES PERTAIN TO OVERCHARGING**

SENIOR CITIZENS FOR GARAGE DOOR REPAIRS

On March 6, Tim Patterson, who has been a leading garage door technician for Garage Door Services (GDS), was bound over for trial in San Diego Superior Court on nine counts of felony residential burglary and nine counts of theft, most of which are felonies. All charges allege primarily that Patterson took financial advantage of customers in the amounts he charged for his garage door work. His company, based in Dallas, Texas, was exposed in our fall 2015 cover story, "The worst garage door company in the nation."

The lead prosecutor in the case is Paul Greenwood, deputy district attorney and the head of the Elder Abuse Prosecution Unit of the San Diego District Attorney's Office. If convicted on all counts, Patterson faces a possible sentence of 10+ years in state prison.

Greenwood said that the residential burglary charges allege that

Lic# 927739

Patterson "entered a residence with the intent to steal." At the March 6 hearing, nine of Patterson's customers testified, along with three other San Diego-area door dealers who had inspected Patterson's invoices and work. Eight of the nine testifying customers were senior citizens.

## Sample invoice from Patterson

In our fall 2015 cover story, one of Patterson's invoices was published (below). This invoice was given to a 90-year-old woman in San Diego, charging her \$2,126.80 for parts and \$2,059.89 for labor on a three-hour service call. After a few other charges and discounts, the total was \$4,274.

For that price, the customer received only a hardware overhaul on one door, a new opener, and the normal related service. Many dealers might charge \$750 or less for the same service.

## A closer look at the charges

The invoice contains several items that

| P.O. BOX 20997 5-469-1416  | Second charge<br>Second charge<br>ok for Contractor to take replaced<br>s uniconbank.com |                |                 |  |                       |                | double- or triple-charge |       |            |   |  |                          |           |          |          |         |          |  |
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| CO TATE CA 777 92128<br>INOM THE INFORMATION OF THE I   | Email  | VICES and      | the contorner   | inte Owner   | G.                    |                |                          |       |            | г   | 0  |                          |           |          |          |         | _        |  |
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| HOAT and dated as above is   |  | Conjument      | to be Instan    | below titled   | nd identify           | · 1_           |                          | _     | _          |   | ATTACHED USE                               | DPARISLISI               | NIT PRICE | SERVICE  | DISCOUNT | TOT     | TAL      |  |
| signed by the Owner") will perfort   | is to be Used and  | ork listed in  | attach addition | ALL  | UNIRAL                |                |                          | _     | PROJEC     | TDESCRIPTION / MA                             | ATTACHED CON<br>ATERIALS OF REPAIR<br>LLED | 0.00                     |           | OP Door  |          | N/A     |          |  |
| signal 3 <sup>-2</sup> , causard 3 <sup>-2</sup> Constant 4 <sup>-2</sup> Const | like marries of additional room  | n is never     |                 | WATCHINT   | TOTAL                 | n (            | QTY                      | _     |            | Data  | Parts Warranty                             | Lifetime                 | 1         | Narranty |          | -       |          |  |
| or terms and Description of in a good ministralLED   | a into the Contract  | THE PARTY      | SERVICE         | N  | 11                    | ~ 1            | Labor                    | War   | ranty      | 30 Days                                       | Parts Warranty                             |                          | \$229.99  | \$0.00   | \$8.00   |         | 29.99    |  |
| the Project to the REPAIRED of the Incorporation of   | NSTALLED UN  | I I I I I I I  | oor Warran      |  | \$229.95              |                | Labor                    |       |            | d/Red Toesion Sprin                           | e  |                          | \$229.99  | \$0.00   | \$8,00   |         | 29.99    |  |
| N / MATERIAN entitled "List of Decay STORE REPAIRS DOWN  | Lifetime   | 100            | 58.00           | 30.00  | \$229.9               | 2              | 1                        | 225x  | 2x27 80    | Red/Black Torsion Sp                          | ring                                       |                          | \$69.99   | \$0.00   | \$8,00   | -       | 69.99    |  |
| PARTY Warranty   |  | \$229.99       | 50.00           | 50.00  | 307.7                 |                | 1                        |       |            |   |  |                          | 589.99    | 50.00    | 58.00    |         | 89.99    |  |
| 30 Days  |  | \$229.99       | 50.00           | 50.00  | 589.                  | 57             | 1                        | Cent  | ter Bear   | ing   |  |                          | \$155.99  | 50.00    | \$8.00   |         | 155.99   |  |
|  |  | 569.97         | 50.00           | 30.00  | 515                   | 5.95           | 1                        | Cen   | ster Bear  | ing Plate                                     |  |                          |           | 50.00    | 50.00    |         | 109.99   |  |
| 25x2x27 Red/Red - Torsion Spring   |  | 589.99         | 10.00           | 50.00  | -                     |                | 1                        | End   | d Bearin   | g Plates (Pair)                               |  |                          | \$109.99  | 50.00    | 50.00    | 5       | 109.99   |  |
| 14121245 1010  |  | \$155.99       | -               |  | -                     |                | T                        | 10-   | 12inch F   | Red Drum                                      |  |                          | \$109.99  | 50.00    | 50.00    | , 5     | 5124.99  |  |
|  |  |                |                 | A Martin Print   |                       | -\$0.00        |                          |       |            | Black Drum                                    |  |                          | \$124.99  | 50.00    | 58.0     |         | \$26.99  |  |
|  |  | -              | to Door Open    | na & Perte Print<br>Discussion<br>Refere Amount<br>a Coupee or Dis   |                       | 2059.89        |                          | 79    | Torsion    | Cable   |  |                          | \$26.99   | 50.00    | 58.0     | _       | \$26.99  |  |
| Center Bearing Plates (Pair)<br>End Bearing Plates (Pair)  |  | 0814           | Garrage Door Or | Discourse Amount   |                       | .\$92.47       | 1 1                      | R     | oller (Sin | igle Long Stem)                               |  |                          | \$26.99   |          | 50.0     | _       | \$26.99  |  |
|  |  | -              | lervice & Insta | a Coupon or Dir  | PROOM                 |                | 1                        | R     | oller (Si  | ngle Long Stem)                               |  |                          | \$26.99   | \$0.00   |          | -       | \$26.99  |  |
|  |  | Servic         |                 |  |                       | \$25.0         | 0                        | HB    | oller (Si  | ngle Long Stem)                               |  |                          | \$26.99   |          |          | -       | \$26.99  |  |
|  |  |                | 00000           | pener Heut On  | -                     | \$99.9         | 10                       | Ha    | toller (Si | ingle Long Stem)                              |  |                          | \$26.99   |          |          | -       | \$26.99  |  |
| 10   | CASH 5:<br>\$0.00  |                | Carrier         | Disposel & Fur   | Nucount               | -\$108.        | 37                       | H     | Baller (S  | ingle Long Stem)                              |  |                          | \$26.99   |          |          | -       | \$26.99  |  |
| ANEX DDISCOVER   |  | R L            | Marry Service   | Disposal & For<br>etc. 5% Parts C<br>L DISCOUNTS   | -                     | \$4112         | 83                       | Æ     | Roller (S  | ingle Long Stem)                              |  |                          | \$26.9    | 9 S0.0   |          | -       | \$26.99  |  |
| CARD CI VISA CI AMERICA Molder:  | CHECK NUMBE<br>6343  |                | TOTA            | AL DISCOUNTS   | N                     | \$16           | 1.64                     | - £   | Dollar ()  | single Long Stem)                             |  |                          | \$26.9    | 9 50.0   |          | .00     | \$139.99 |  |
|  | CREDIT CARD  | APPS           | \$1,81          | TOTAL UTIL   |                       | 6.627          | 4.47                     | 1     | Bomer C    | Single Long Stem)                             |  |                          | 50.0      | 0 \$139  | 39 -     | 0.00    | \$499.99 |  |
| LastaDigit :   | CREDIT CAL   | F              |                 |  |                       |                | \$0.00                   |       |            | (Lifetime)                                    |  |                          | \$499.    | 99 50.   | 00 -     | 0,00    |          |  |
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| ESP:   | TANTUT   | ION'S          |                 |  |                       | NOT EX         | CEED                     |       | M 32       | T Screw Rail                                  |  |                          | 569.      |          |          | 60,00   | \$69.99  |  |
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| TO SIGNATURE MUST  | its prior to any new   |                |                 | SALE   | 06/0                  | 2/15 13:       | of payme                 | cell  |            | a System Deconstrui                           | ction                                      |                          | - 50      |          | 9.99     | \$8,00  | \$269.99 |  |
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| \$1,000 OR To commencement OS/022 made   | the home improve   | im of lies p   | Unstates of the | a price as affer   | wances.               |                |                          | _     | - 6        | r Service                                     |  |                          |           |          | 189.99   | \$8.00  | \$189.99 |  |
| CARD WOLFER WOLFERST OF CONTROL O   | to make such a t   | included       | in the contra-  |  |                       |                |                          |       |            | Balance                                       |  |                          | -         | 0.00     | 129.99   | \$92.47 |          |  |
| Release: furnish to the for any person has been  | made.  | s estimated at | recount         |  |                       | _              | -                        | 11    | Lub        | and Tune Service                              | - In a                                     |                          | -         | 0.00     | \$29.59  | \$8,00  | \$29.99  |  |
| claim of mechanisms for which pay or specific participation of the work for which pays or specific pays or specific pays of the work for which pays or specific pays or specific pays of the work for which pays or specific pays or specific pays of the work for which pays or specific pays or specific pays of the work for which pays or specific pays or specific pays of the work for which pays or specific pays or specific pays of the work for which pays or specific pays or spe   | involution tatlets of  |                |                 | _  |                       | _              |                          | 1     | Rett       | ote/Keypad Reprogr                            | amating                                    |                          |           |          | 299.99   | \$0.00  | \$299.9  |  |
| Allowances: The foreign and based on   |  |                |                 |  |                       |                |                          |       |            | noval and Disposal of                         | Materials                                  |                          |           | 50.00    | \$299.97 |         |          |  |
| adjusted upware  |  |                |                 |  |                       |                |                          | F     | 1 Tra      | ck Reset and Alignm                           | ent  | - END -                  |           |          |          |         |          |  |
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| GDG I  |  |                |                 | 1  | 1                     |                |                          |       |            |   |  |                          |           |          |          |         |          |  |
| GDS goes by many name  | es, such   | as N           | eight           | orhoo  | )d                    |                |                          | 1     |            |   |  |                          |           |          |          |         |          |  |
| Garage Door Service, Ye  |  |                |                 |  |                       |                |                          |       |            |   |  |                          |           |          |          |         |          |  |
|  |  |                |                 |  |                       |                |                          |       |            |   |  |                          |           |          |          |         |          |  |
| Fox Overhead Garage D  | oors. ai   | nd do          | zens i          | nore.  |                       |                |                          | L     |            |   |  |                          |           |          |          |         |          |  |
|  | ,  |                |                 |  |                       |                |                          |       |            |   |  |                          |           |          |          |         |          |  |

### By Tom Wadsworth, CDDC

for the same item or service. Specifically, this elderly woman was charged \$459.98 for two torsion springs, another \$259.99 for "Torsion System Deconstruction," \$269.99 for "Torsion System Reinstallation," \$299.99 for "Track Reset and Alignment," and \$199.99 for "Door Balance." Other hardware charges (rollers, brackets, cable, drums, etc.) totaled \$766.87 plus another \$139.99 for a "Lifetime" parts warranty, \$189.99 for "Lube and Tune Service."

For the opener, a LiftMaster 1/2-HP screw drive opener with rail and a 3-button transmitter, Patterson charged her \$719.97 plus another \$199.99 for "Motor Service," \$199.99 for "Garage Door Motor and Accessorie (sic) Installation," and \$37.52 for "Remote/Keypad Reprogramming."

Other charges included \$29.99 for "Removal and Disposal of Materials," another \$25.00 for "Garage Opener Haul Off," and \$99.95 for "Recycling, Disposal, and Fuel." Yet, she received \$198.81 in "discounts." As reported in our fall 2015 article, Patterson would have been praised and even rewarded for

such an invoice.

## Top qun

According to a former GDS employee, Patterson made more than \$300,000 for himself in 2015 and was rewarded with a trip to the GDS Christmas party at the company's Dallas headquarters. Several internal GDS records praise Patterson as a "top gun" for high invoices.

The service for this one invoice was provided on June 2, 2015, under GDS's California contractor license (#927739). At that time, that license was under suspension. The Contractors State License Board (CSLB) reported that GDS was not allowed to perform any work while under suspension. Yet there is evidence that Patterson was active constantly throughout the suspension period.