



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Northern District of New York*

100 South Clinton Street

*Room 900; P.O. Box 7198
Syracuse, New York 13261-7198
(315) 448-0672*

PRESS RELEASE

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Richard S. Hartunian, United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, announced today the arrest of Cihan Zorluoglu, age 32, Brewster, NY, for illegal activities related to the removal of asbestos at the former St. James school, 4837 S. Salina Street, Syracuse, NY, and for making false statements to Special Agents of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Zorluoglu, a citizen of Turkey, faces a maximum possible term of incarceration of ten years in jail and a fine of \$ 500,000 if convicted.

The allegations in the criminal complaint are mere accusations and all persons are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Asbestos has been determined to cause lung cancer, asbestosis and mesothelioma, an invariably fatal disease. The Environmental Protection Agency has determined that there is no safe level of exposure to asbestos.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Environmental Protection Agency

who were assisted by the New York State Department of Labor, Asbestos Control Bureau.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Craig A. Benedict.