

## Ian and the Scurvy Knave

October 21, 2022

Don't help people after a hurricane!

Not if you live in another state and there's no time to lose but . . . you're licensed only in that other state.

Now, before you declare Houston-based Terence Duque an innocent victim because he was arrested for not being Florida-licensed, let's take a cold hard look at the facts. Duque is licensed in Texas, has operated a successful

***The right thing??? The man was honestly trying to help people recover from a terrible personal setback and fully qualified to do so!!!!!!***

roofing business since 2008, is rated A+ by the Better Business Bureau, is called a "preferred contractor" by Owens Corning.

Sounds okay, right?

But hold on. After Hurricane Ian smashed Florida a few weeks ago, what did this scurvy knave do?

Shamelessly and with constructive purposes aforethought, Duque offered his services to residents



of hard-hit Charlotte County, Florida!!!! No, seriously. Simply because homeowners had had their roofs ripped up, Duque offered to repair them!!!! Yet this man calls himself a roofer!!!!!!!!

Arrested by the Charlotte County sheriff, who says "I will not allow unlicensed contractors to further victimize [sic]" hurricane victims, Duque is charged with "conducting business in Charlotte County without a Florida license." He faces one to five years in jail.

He says he thought he'd been allowed to help Floridians because licensing regulations had been loosened due to the emergency.

No.

Justin Pearson, an attorney with Institute for Justice, says Duque was punished for "doing the right thing."

The right thing??? The man was honestly trying to help people recover from a terrible personal setback and fully qualified to do so!!!!!! Look at the facts!!!!!!!!

*Throw away the key?*

This is, er, Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.