

Nevada State Contractors Board

www.nscb.state.nv.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contractors Board Again Stings Unlicensed Contractors

(*Las Vegas, NV*) - During two successful sting operations conducted last month, Nevada State Contractors Board (NSCB) criminal investigators issued eighteen (18) criminal citations for violations of NRS 624.700 (engaging in business without a license) and NRS 624.720 (unlawful advertising).

Unlicensed contractors advertising for construction projects found themselves cited for criminal violations. Investigators posing as homeowners met unlicensed contractors and received bids for home improvement projects that clearly required a licensed contractor.

The NSCB is increasing the number of stings throughout the state as part of its Proactive Investigations Program. The agency's criminal investigative efforts have resulted in the identification of over \$830,000 in unlicensed contracting activity in Southern Nevada within the past two months.

Those cited will appear in justice court for hearing within the next 60 days. NRS 624.700 and 624.720 makes contracting and/or advertising without a license a Misdemeanor for the first offense, a Gross Misdemeanor for the second offense, and a Class E Felony for the third offense.

The NSCB urges consumers to hire only licensed contractors. Consumers can verify contractors' licenses and obtain helpful tips for working with contractors by calling (702) 486-1100 or 24 hours a day by logging on to <u>www.nscb.state.nv.us</u>.

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The Nevada State Contractors Board is committed to protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare through licensing and regulation of the construction industry. Under Nevada Revised Statutes, a licensee is subject to disciplinary action by the Board for failure to comply with the requirements of the laws or regulations governing contractors. Violations may result in Board action against the contractor's license. The State Contractors Board has the power to regulate contractors and discipline licensees who violate NRS 624. Disciplinary action may consist of a fine of up to \$10,000 per offense, order corrective action, suspension, revocation or other action.