



Nevada State Contractors Board  
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**Fraudulent Unlicensed Contractor Pleads Guilty  
to 44 Felony Charges**

*(Las Vegas, NV)* - Frank Boyd Hall of Las Vegas-based Curtis Construction has pled guilty in District Court to 44 felony charges of Obtaining Money Under False Pretenses, Diversion of Funds and Theft. The District Attorney listed 41 victims with restitution totaling over \$350,000. The plea agreement states that Mr. Hall shall pay full restitution to all victims, sign a civil confession of judgment, shall stay out of trouble and shall not perform any contracting work, own any contracting business or operate as an employee, agent, shareholder, manager or officer of any business which engages in contracting. Hall's sentencing is scheduled for June 27, 2005.

Frank Hall was previously president of Capitol Builders and Development Inc. until having this license revoked by the Nevada State Contractors Board (NSCB) in June of 2003 for performing substandard workmanship and failing to respond to the Board. Hall unlawfully assumed control of Curtis Construction in July 2003 without obtaining a license or obtaining approval of the Board. Curtis Construction's license was subsequently revoked by the Contractors Board in June of 2004 as a result of Hall's actions.

As a result of the initial complaints received by the State Contractors Board, a Cease and Desist Order was issued to Curtis Construction and the license was initially suspended by the Board. A special team of compliance and criminal investigators was assembled to work closely with the Clark County District Attorney's Office to address the complaints and ensure an expedited referral to the Office of the Clark County District Attorney for criminal prosecution in this case.

This case is a prime example of the Board's commitment to its mission of protecting the safety and welfare of the public. The Board has no tolerance for construction fraud and will continue to prosecute this type of case to the full extent of its resources.

Hall's actions resulted in numerous claims on the Residential Recovery Fund amounting to approximately \$700,000 in losses. The fund provides limited monetary compensation to homeowners who have been damaged by a licensed contractor's failure to appropriately execute a contract and have exhausted all other means of recovery.

At a Recovery Fund hearing on December 6, 2004, the NSCB awarded the victims of Curtis Construction \$199,999.56, the largest aggregate award to date yet well below the amount that would cover actual damages for the victims. At the time that the claims were made, the limit for cases involving a single contractor was \$200,000. The claims made regarding Curtis Construction were the first to exceed that limit.

As a result of the unprecedented claims in the Curtis Construction cases, Assembly Bill 34 was introduced. The bill, endorsed by the NSCB and sponsored by Assemblyman Barbara Buckley, was signed into law by Governor Guinn on March 28, 2005. It granted homeowners the ability to claim additional compensation from the Residential Recovery Fund.

The new law increases the total amount that can be paid from the Recovery Fund from \$200,000 to \$400,000 per contractor and increased the individual claim limit from \$30,000 to \$35,000 per homeowner.

The law's provisions apply retroactively to claims arising from acts or omissions on or after January 1, 2004 which would include the victims of Curtis Construction.

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