

Contact: Art Nadler, Public Information Officer (702) 486-1100 x1139 or (775) 688-1141 x1139

<u>NSCB Investigators Nab Six Contractors</u> <u>For Alleged Unlicensed Activity</u>

Nevada State Contractors Board investigators conducted a sting operation recently in the Reno area for alleged unlicensed contracting activity.

Those who received citations for allegedly *contracting without a license* by submitting bids were:

Jose Carlos Lopez-Aguilar, submitted a *bid for painting*, issued an administrative citation; Sterling Young, dba Sterling "Rocky" Young Handyman, submitted a *bid for electrical work*, issued an administrative citation; Ray Medina, submitted a *bid for electrical work and the installation of pavers*, issued an administrative citation; Eric Rojas, dba Green Forest Lawn Care, submitted a *bid for the installation of pavers*, issued an administrative citation; Stephen Brooke, dba SB, submitted *a bid for electrical work*, issued an administrative citation; and William "Bill" Lagorio, dba Bill's Paving Design, *submitted a bid for pavers*, issued a criminal citation. Lagorio was a licensed contractor who had his license revoked. He allegedly takes homeowners' money and fails to pay material suppliers, resulting in liens being filed. Contracting without a license in Nevada is a misdemeanor for the first offense, a gross misdemeanor for the second offense and a Class E felony for the third offense.

Homeowners who use unlicensed contractors are not eligible for the Residential Recovery Fund, and by law their contracts are null and void.

The NSCB recommends that homeowners not use unlicensed contractors because their work is generally poor quality, they are often uninsured and may not maintain workman's compensation coverage for their employees and the homeowner may be liable for all injuries to workers.

Consumers can check whether a contractor is licensed by calling: (702) 486-1100 in Southern Nevada, or (775) 688-1141 in Northern Nevada. License checks can also be conducted on the NSCB website at: <u>www.nscb.state.nv.us</u>

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