

e-News

Release

Nevada State Contractors Board

www.nscb.state.nv.us



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HOT WEATHER HOMEOWNER ADVISORY

ISSUED BY NEVADA STATE CONTRACTORS BOARD

With hot weather quickly approaching, the Nevada State Contractors Board is advising homeowners to follow simple precautionary steps before hiring someone to service, repair or replace your air conditioner. Get at least *three* bids from licensed contractors before hiring someone, especially if a contractor recommends replacing your entire air conditioner.

The Board recommends that homeowners only hire contractors licensed with the State of Nevada. A licensed contractor will have a 5-digit number that can be easily verified by either going on-line to do a license search at: www.nscb.state.nv.us or by calling (702) 486-1100 in Southern Nevada, or (775) 688-1141 in Northern Nevada to ask for assistance.

If cash is paid, have the contractor provide a written receipt. The Board recommends paying with checks (either personal or a cashier's check), so as to document transactions.

Keep a job file on your project, where all important documents (the contract, canceled checks, etc.) can be kept for quick reference. Stick to the original price negotiated.

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If changes are made, either at the homeowner or contractor's suggestion, *get the change order in writing*, and put this in your job file.

Contacting 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. If you are approached by an unlicensed contractor, please contact the Nevada State Contractors Board by calling our Unlicensed Contractor Hotline at: (702) 486-1160 in Southern Nevada, or (775) 850-7838 in Northern Nevada.

The Nevada State Contractors Board advises homeowners not to 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. Also, homeowners who use unlicensed contractors are not eligible for the Residential Recovery Fund, and by law their contracts are null and void.

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