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## Contractors Receive Citations For Alleged Unlicensed Activity

Nevada State Contractors Board investigators in Northern and Southern Nevada recently conducted sting operations for alleged unlicensed contracting activity.

Those cited in the Reno and Sparks area for allegedly *contracting without a license* included:

**Mario Pedroza-Juarez, dba Cleancut Landscaping**, was issued a criminal citation. Pedroza-Juarez provided a bid for the installation of pavers. Besides advertising to install pavers, he was also allegedly soliciting to do rock walls and retaining walls.

**Chuck Austin, dba Chuck Austin Concrete**, was issued a criminal citation. Austin, a former licensed Nevada contractor with license number 44889, had his license cancelled in 2006. He submitted a bid for concrete work.

**Oscar Garcia**, allegedly going door-to-door and claiming to be the "Best in the West" was issued a criminal citation. He submitted a bid to do concrete work.

**Fernando M. Martinez, dba Nandos Landscaping Custom Concrete**, was issued a criminal citation. Martinez, a former licensed Nevada contractor with license numbers 53933 and 51816, had his licenses recently suspended for having no bond. He had submitted a bid to do pavers.

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Those identified in the Las Vegas area for allegedly *contracting without a license* included:

**Mario A. Salazar, dba Mario's Painting**, submitted a bid to paint a house. Salazar was cited for *contracting without a license*.

**Bryce Doucette** submitted a bid to paint a house. Doucette was cited for *contracting without a license* and *advertising without a license*.

**Joseph Alexander** submitted a bid for electrical work. Alexander was cited for *contracting without a license* and *advertising without a license*.

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: [www.nsch.state.nv.us](http://www.nsch.state.nv.us) by clicking on the "**Contractor License Search & Disciplinary Actions Search**" icon.

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