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Four Reno Contractors Cited For Alleged Unlicensed Activity

Nevada State Contractors Board investigators recently conducted sting operations in Reno, NV, for unlicensed contracting activity.

Four individuals identified for allegedly being unlicensed included:

John W. Steffens III was issued a criminal citation for *advertising without a license*. He was advertising his services on Craig’s List under the heading “Heating Problems.”

Jacob C. Mercer, dba Artistic Stone & Tile, was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*. He submitted a bid to install tile and granite counter tops for \$7,400. Mercer was advertising his services on a vehicle and a local bulletin board.

Rory H. O’Connor was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*. He submitted a painting bid for \$1,950. O’Connor was advertising his services on a flyer as “Handyman.”

David N. Doty, dba Dave’s Building Maintenance, was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*. He submitted an electrical bid for \$50. Doty was advertising his services in the Big Nickel publication.

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.

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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.nscb.state.nv.us by clicking on the "**Contractor License Search & Disciplinary Actions Search**" icon.

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