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Two Contractors Cited For Alleged Unlicensed Activity

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

Two individuals identified for allegedly being unlicensed included:

Samuel Talavera, aka Sam Hernandez, was issued a criminal citation for *advertising without a license*. He was advertising his services on Craig's List under the heading "Furnace Installation."

Todd M. Kaiser was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*. He submitted a bid to install a water heater for \$200. Kaiser was advertising his plumbing services on a local bulletin board under "Handyman Services."

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.

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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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