



NSCB News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 21, 2013

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THIRTEEN UNLICENSED CONTRACTORS BUSTED IN CONTRACTORS BOARD STING

HENDERSON, Nev. – The Nevada State Contractors Board (NSCB) cited 13 unlicensed contractors during a sting operation in Las Vegas on November 19. Six suspects were cited for allegedly engaging in business or submitting a bid without a contractor’s license, a violation of Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 624.700. Seven were charged with allegedly advertising without a contractor’s license (NRS 624.720).

Board investigators posing as property owners contacted unlicensed contractors, inviting them to visit the sting location to discuss performing floor tile installation, drywall and electrical work. According to Nevada law, all electrical, plumbing, air conditioning and heating work must be performed by licensed contractors. All other work requires a license if the cost of the project – labor and materials – totals \$1,000 or more or requires a building permit.

The Board’s criminal investigators conducting stings use the interactions to encourage unlicensed contractors to obtain their contractor’s licenses while also fulfilling the Board’s mandate to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Below are details of each alleged violation for which a citation was issued:

SUSPECT

Paul Arambula
Alfonso Carillo
Jason Gomez (All Star Construction)
Robert Gomez
Steven Kesler (K&K Landscape and Handyman)
Carl Montes (Star Landscaping)
Max Peeks

ALLEGED VIOLATION

Contracting without a license
Contracting without a license
Contracting without a license
Advertising without a license
Advertising without a license
Contracting without a license
Contracting without a license

(more)

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jeremy Pelletier (Dickie's Handyman) | Advertising without a license |
| David Smith (Dave's Handyman Service) | Contracting without a license |
| Edgar Hernandez | Advertising without a license |
| Paul J. Demichelle | Advertising without a license |
| Steven Filipetti | Advertising without a license |
| Jossef Behor | Advertising without a license |

The Board encourages anyone who comes across unlicensed contracting activities to report the information to **NSCB's Unlicensed Contractor Hotline: (702) 486-1160 or (775) 850-7838**. Details to provide the Board, when available, include the unlicensed contractor's name, address (business and/or physical location where work is being performed), phone number, vehicle description, license plate, business card and/or advertisement, contracts signed by the unlicensed individual, etc.

NSCB advises homeowners utilizing online sources, such as Craigslist, to contact contractors for home construction and/or repair services to do so with caution. It is important homeowners remember:

- Always verify the contractor's license number on NSCB's website at www.nscb.nv.gov before hiring.
- Provide the Board the scope of your project (in writing) before hiring a contractor to determine whether a contractor's license is needed.
- Plumbing, electrical, heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration services all require the use of a licensed contractor – regardless of the size or scope of the project.
- Homeowners who use unlicensed contractors are ineligible for the Residential Recovery Fund.
- Contracts made with an unlicensed contractor are not recognized/valid in the State of Nevada.

NSCB encourages consumers to follow these guidelines when hiring a contractor:

1. Only hire licensed contractors.
2. Check the contractor's license number by utilizing our Online Contractor Search at www.nscb.nv.gov
3. Get at least three bids.
4. Obtain references and follow up with them on the quality and satisfaction of work performed.
5. Always get a written contract and do not sign anything until you completely understand the terms.
6. For pool contracts, pay 10 percent down or \$1,000 - whichever is less, if a deposit is required.
7. Don't let payments get ahead of the work. Keep a record of all payments.
8. Don't make a final payment until you are satisfied with the job.
9. Never pay with cash; only check or credit.
10. Keep a job file of all papers relating to your project.

Visit our website: www.nscb.nv.gov

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