



NSCB News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 2, 2014

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“BORDER BLITZ” NABS FAKE CONTRACTORS **IN NEVADA, CALIFORNIA**

STATELINE – The [Nevada State Contractors Board](#) (NSCB) and [California Contractors State License Board](#) (CSLB) conducted their third concurrent undercover enforcement operation on April 30, citing 19 people for unlicensed contracting activity. The “Border Blitz” used homes in Stateline, Nev. and South Lake Tahoe, Calif.

Investigators from NSCB and CSLB’s Statewide Investigative Fraud Team (SWIFT) posed as property owners and contacted unlicensed contractors, inviting them to visit the sting location to discuss performing landscaping, painting, drywall, plumbing, tile work, masonry and other construction trades that require contractors’ licenses. Each agency sent investigators to observe the other’s operation.

Suspects who offered to perform jobs that require contractors’ licenses or who bid more than the legal limit for labor and materials received citations.

A registered sex offender was among those cited in Nevada. In all, Nevada investigators cited eight people for contracting without a license. Seven of the eight also were charged with illegal advertising. Of these, three hold valid California contractors’ licenses. Defendants will be required to appear in Lake Tahoe Justice Court.

It is against the law in Nevada to contract for home improvement or construction jobs valued at \$1,000 or more for labor and materials without a state-issued contractor license. A license also is required to perform or advertise for electrical, plumbing, heating, air conditioning or any other life-safety trade in Nevada, regardless of the project’s value.

CSLB cited 11 suspects for contracting without a license; nine face additional charges of illegal advertising. Defendants will answer the charges in El Dorado County, Calif. courtrooms. California requires licensure for any project valued at \$500 or more. While unlicensed persons may advertise for and perform jobs valued at less than \$500, advertisements must identify the person or company as unlicensed.

The [El Dorado County District Attorney’s Office](#) provided law enforcement backup at the California sting site.

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“Unlicensed activity continues to deprive legitimate contractors of jobs and to put property owners’ safety and financial well being at risk,” said NSCB Executive Officer Margi A. Grein. “Nevada and California have demonstrated a firm commitment to protecting our citizens from the risks presented by unlicensed contractors who often carry no insurance, are not bonded and have not demonstrated competence in the work they perform.”

California and Nevada have a reciprocity agreement that simplifies the application process for contractors licensed in one state who want to seek a license in the other. Investigators urged those cited to begin the licensing process in states in which they perform work.

SUSPECTS CITED IN NEVADA STING	WORK CLASS	VIOLATIONS
Eric Moehlman * South Shore Plumbing & Heating	Painting	Contracting without a license Advertising without a license
Joe Luis Du’Bon-Perez * Alpha Builders	Masonry	Contracting without a license Advertising without a license
Lawrence Riley * Riley Plumbing	Plumbing	Contracting without a license
Michael Hull #	Painting	Contracting without a license Advertising without a license
Loren Allen	Masonry	Contracting without a license Advertising without a license
Paul Pasillas Custom Tile Installation	Tile	Contracting without a license Advertising without a license
Michael Hasting	Painting	Contracting without a license Advertising without a license
Cynthia Graf All Out Complete Property Services	Painting	Contracting without a license Advertising without a license

* Possesses a valid California contractor’s license

Registered in Nevada as a sex offender

NSCB and CSLB urge consumers to follow these tips before signing a contract for home improvement work:

- Only hire licensed contractors who hold a valid license in the state where the job will be done and in the classification of the work to be undertaken.
- Always check the license number on [NSCB](#)’s of [CSLB](#)’s website to make sure the contractor’s license is in good standing.

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- Don't pay in cash, and don't let payments get ahead of the work.
- Get at least three bids, check references, and get a written contract.
- Do not sign a contract until you completely understand all its terms.

SUSPECTS CITED IN CALIFORNIA STING	LICENSE CLASSIFICATION	VIOLATIONS
Todd Raymond Kubicka Gardnerville, Nev.	General	Contracting without a license Illegal advertising
Aston Zane Wilcox South Lake Tahoe, Calif.	Painting and Decorating	Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
Robert Martin Avila South Lake Tahoe, Calif.	Painting and Decorating	Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
Roy Franklin Johnson Zephyr Cove, Nev.	General	Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
Gary Thomas Phillips Sr. South Lake Tahoe, Calif.	Painting and Decorating	Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
Juvenal Loayza-Baca Carson City, Nev.	General	Contracting without a license
Charles Wayne Smith Tahoe City, Calif.	Painting and Decorating	Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
Prisciliano Perez-Peralta Carson City, Nev.	General	Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
Edward Joseph Jachimiak Stateline, Nev.	Painting and Decorating	Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
Todd Richard Hall South Lake Tahoe, Calif.	Painting and Decorating	Contracting without a license
Thomas Howard Cook Myers, Calif.	General	Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising

The Nevada State Contractors Board is committed to protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare through licensing and regulation of the construction industry. Under Nevada Revised Statutes,

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licensee is subject to disciplinary action by the Board for failure to comply with the requirements of the laws or regulations governing contractors. Violations may result in Board action against the contractor's license. The State Contractors Board has the power to regulate contractors and discipline licensees who violate [NRS 624](#). Disciplinary action may consist of a fine of up to \$10,000 per offense, order corrective action, suspension, revocation or other action.

The Contractors State License Board operates under the umbrella of the California [Department of Consumer Affairs](#). More information and publications about hiring contractors are available on the CSLB website or by calling 800-321-CSLB (2752). You can also sign up for [CSLB email alerts](#). CSLB licenses and regulates California's 300,000 contractors, and is regarded as one of the leading consumer protection agencies in the United States. In fiscal year 2010-11, CSLB helped recover nearly \$45 million in ordered restitution for consumers.

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