



NSCB News Release



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NOTORIOUS UNLICENSED CONTRACTOR FACES FELONY SENTENCING

HENDERSON, Nev. – The subject of numerous and lengthy Nevada State Contractors Board investigations is scheduled for sentencing in Las Vegas District Court on August 19.

Michael Delbridge, who pleaded guilty on April 22 to felony charges of engaging in business without a license, contracted for construction projects under the names “Southwest Construction,” “Roadrunner Construction,” and “Michael Delbridge Construction.” His activities have drawn the Contractors Board’s attention at various times since 1994. He has faced allegations of posing as a licensed contractor, obtaining funds under false pretenses, diversion of funds and victimizing vulnerable persons.

In the most recent case, Delbridge was arrested at the NSCB office on a felony warrant. Board investigators delivered evidence to the Clark County District Attorney’s Office, which then submitted five cases resulting in a felony conviction, including restitution to five homeowners and investigative costs to NSCB. Since Delbridge’s plea in District Court, NSCB criminal investigators have received five additional complaints. In one case, Delbridge entered into the construction contract after his court appearance. Delbridge has amassed 17 cases at NSCB with additional charges pending as a result of the five new complaints.

“Repeat offenders, such as Mr. Delbridge, who continuously place homeowners at risk because of their unlicensed contracting practices are a serious threat to the public’s safety,” stated Executive Officer Margi A. Grein. “It is always a good feeling when you can partner with other agencies like the

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Clark County District Attorney to bring these individuals to justice and hopefully deter future harm from being done.”

Investigators determined Delbridge offers a bid and entices the victims to pay cash up front by claiming his “vendors” are offering a sale. The victims believe they are getting a deal. Delbridge will sometimes begin the project and then stop appearing at the victim’s home. When the victim calls regarding the project, Delbridge claims problems with his health, vehicles or other projects. When the frustrated homeowner requests a refund, Delbridge continues to make excuses, sometimes giving a partial payment. However, when the remainder of the funds are requested, Delbridge promises to get back to work, claims the bank won’t release the funds, and takes other measures to delay the project.

When left with no choice but to refund a victim’s cash, Delbridge often starts another project and uses the new victim’s down payment to pay back the previous victim.

The Nevada State Contractors Board encourages anyone with information on suspected unlicensed contracting activities to contact the **NSCB Unlicensed Contractor Hotline: (702) 486-1160 or (775) 850-7838**. If available, include the unlicensed contractor’s name, business address, project location, phone number, and vehicle make, model, color and license plate number. When contracting for home repair and maintenance projects, always verify the contractor’s license number on NSCB’s website at www.nscb.nv.gov.

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