



Horizons

nevada™

state contractors board

February 2015



Table of Contents

Message from Chairman Wells	3
Message from Executive Officer Margi Grein	4
Licensing Trends	5
Enforcement Trends: Licensed Contractors	6
Enforcement Trends: Unlicensed Contractors	7
Three Arrested, 20 Cited in NSCB Stings	8
Board Expands Education Initiatives	10
Investigation Results in Three Unlicensed Activity Charges	10
Board Makes Big Bust of Licensed, Unlicensed Contractors in Rural Nevada	11
Compliance Tips for Licensed Contractors	11
Long-Sought Unlicensed Contractor Nabbed on Felony Charge	12
Board Recognizes Industry's Call for Jobs Stimulus	13
Residential Recovery Fund Fee Reduced	13
Board Revokes 11 Licenses	14
Contractors: Remember to Carry Your Pocket Card	16
Verify Licenses Before Contracting with Solar Suppliers	17
Solar Boom Reveals Shady Practices	17
Community Colleges Provide Contractor Education	18
Nevada Contractor's Checklist	20

HAVE A SUGGESTION FOR THE NEXT ISSUE?

Send us an e-mail and let us know!

Jennifer Lewis, Public Information Officer: JLewis@NSCB.State.NV.US

Scott Smith, Public Information Specialist: SSmith@NSCB.State.NV.US

AVAILABLE ONLINE (click to view)

- [NSCB 2014-15 Strategic Plan](#)
 - [Consumer brochures](#)
 - [Contractor brochures](#)
 - [NSCB Newsroom](#)
 - Residential Recovery Fund brochure - [NEW TOOL FOR CONTRACTORS](#)
- STAY CONNECTED:**
'LIKE' US ON FACEBOOK

Message from Chairman Guy M. Wells



It's hard to believe it's 2015, isn't it? They say the New Year is a time to reflect and set new goals. However, I can't seem to get past the drastic changes and challenges our state has faced through the passing of time.

In the last 15 years, we've seen the construction industry boom and jobs flourish, only to be followed by one of the worst economic downturns since the Great Recession. It was during these times we all had to re-evaluate our business models, business and personal goals, and fight for survival in more ways than one.

We were forced to make difficult decisions that affected not only our lives and those of our families, but the lives of our employees, co-workers, colleagues, and friends. Yet, through this unthinkable period, we continued to persevere as an industry.

For those who had to close

their doors, we are beginning to see their businesses reopen. For those who had to lay off employees, more opportunities are becoming available to expand their workforce. And for those businesses that survived the difficult days, we are seeing greater abilities to perform new work.

This is not to paint the picture that the industry is whole again, but we are on pace to get there, even if at a turtle's speed instead of a hare's. Sometimes, it is nice to be reminded that our success in this industry is not based on the speed at which we climb to the top, but rather the journey taken to get there.

Our greatest contribution is not just the buildings we build, the houses we renovate, or the repairs we fix. It is the lives we touch in the process - the homeowner who can live in their home again thanks to our work; the businesses that have a place to operate because of the locations we created for them; the thousands of people who have jobs because we have made them available.

I mention this to remind us all that while we cannot control the economic environment we are forced to live in, we can learn from the past and better prepare for the future.

We can take on the

challenge of improving our business models to adapt to the unthinkable; create multiple backup plans that would address various scenarios that could occur within the industry; re-evaluate our financial models to best protect our livelihoods and investments; and keep our staff informed of the ways we are working to secure their jobs for the future.

Being profitable will always be a priority for us - it's what business owners need to survive and what employees expect to sustain a livable income. But, I believe by rethinking our strategies and resetting our mindsets to think in broader terms about success, we will create a new standard of business practice within Nevada's industry, and one that hopefully will continue to improve and weather future challenges with greater outcomes compared to prior experiences.

I encourage you to take the time to consider these points and determine whether changes could be made to set your business in a different strategic direction this year. If it doesn't work, you can always revert back to the old way, but sometimes it's the willingness to take a chance on a new initiative that leads to bigger and greater paths!

Message From Margi Grein, Executive Officer

The beginning of the year is always an exciting time for the Board. It marks our halfway point in meeting the goals and objectives of our fiscal-year strategic plan and gives us the opportunity to gauge our progress toward our goal of becoming a model regulatory agency.

During the first two quarters of the fiscal year, we have focused on solving several technological challenges regarding data storage, transfer and security. We also have leveraged new opportunities to improve our customer service offerings and internal operations.

We are in the process of trying to make our services to contractors more user-friendly. This includes a focus on expanding our online resources, automated forms and applications and training staff members to meet the ever-changing needs of our customers.

As always, we have worked to eradicate unlicensed contracting in order to protect property owners from poor workmanship and business practices and shield legitimate, licensed contractors from unfair and illegitimate competition. Toward this end, staff members have built a greater understanding and created strong partnerships that promote and take our mission of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public to new heights. At a meeting of the Nevada Sheriffs and Chiefs Association, our investigative team highlighted the ways law enforcement can combat unlicensed contracting activities in the course of their day-to-day duties, while enhancing the lines of communication with Board investigators.

These outreach efforts led to great



collaboration in sting events the Board conducted in both the north and south ends of the state during the quarter. The results of those operations are highlighted in this issue. The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and the Reno Police Department participated in the stings and arrested three suspects on warrants for fraud, felony narcotics possession, and an NSCB gross misdemeanor.

As also reported in this issue, the Nevada Highway Patrol made several arrests on outstanding warrants after it was called in during the course of NSCB investigations.

These developments will continue throughout the fiscal year, and we are confident our efforts will lead us toward even greater fulfillment of our mission to protect the health and welfare of the public.

In addition to our law enforcement partnerships, the Board has actively engaged itself in a number of collaborative opportunities with government, industry and private sector representatives, each of which has generated stronger communication, increased understanding and renewed expectations for ongoing initiatives.

This includes preparations for the 2015 session of the Nevada State Legislature, which will begin in February. Board executives have met with legislators to introduce them to the Board, share the mission and public services we have to offer, and provide them with opportunities to partner with the Board on outreach initiatives for their constituencies.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Margi Grein". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Licensing

NSCB's Licensing Division is responsible for assisting individuals interested in obtaining a Nevada contractor's license, as well as processing license applications and ensuring all necessary qualifications are met.

During the quarter, the Board conducted a workshop and hearing to present information and solicit feedback regarding the Board's plan to adopt a new license subclassification, B-6, which would permit remodeling of interior commercial spaces.

The Board also received approval for language concerning Regulation R019-14 clarifying the criteria the Board uses for imposing fines.

QUARTERLY STATISTICS

New License Applications: 348 (+4.5%)
305 Approved • 24 Tabled/Denied

Issued Licenses: 282 (+15%)

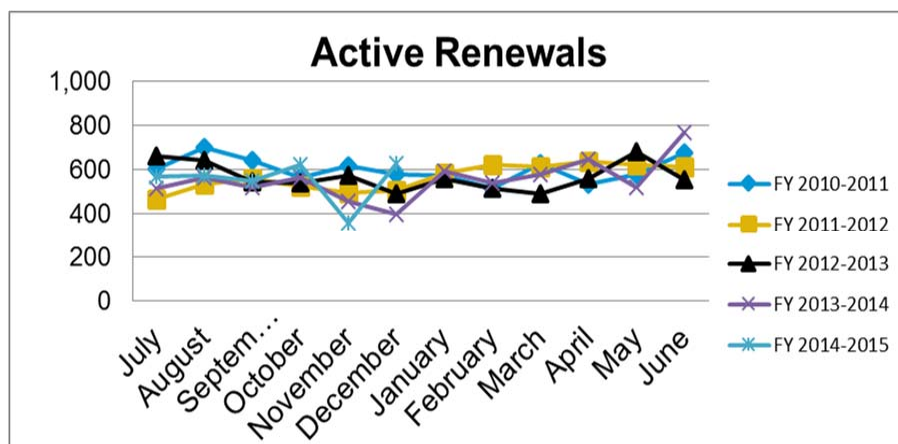
License Change Apps: 759 (+6%)

Renewals: Active 1,609 (+13%); Inactive 108 (+21%)

Licenses: Active 14,899 (-.02%); Inactive 1,099 (-16%)

New Licenses Issued

	FY 2012-13	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15
OCT	83	88	92
NOV	84	65	82
DEC	65	93	108
TOTAL	232	246	282



OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2014

Licenses (Beginning of Quarter)	16,024
New Licenses Issued	282
Licenses Cancelled / Surrendered / Revoked	(336)
Variance in Suspended/Reinstated Licenses	28
Licenses (End of Quarter)	15,998
# of Licenses on September 30, 2014	16,024
# of Licenses on December 31, 2014	15,998
Net YTD (Fiscal Year)	
Licenses Gained / Lost	(26)
Renewal Revenue Gained / Lost	(\$15,600)
*Does not include suspended licenses	

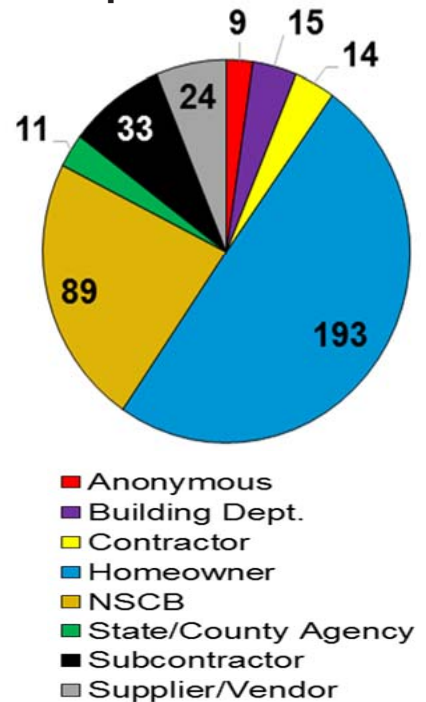
Enforcement - Licensed Contractors

NSCB's Compliance Investigations Division assists homeowners and licensed contractors with contracting matters, such as workmanship issues, money owing complaints and violations of industry regulations.

Compliance Violations

	Money Owing				Workmanship				Industrial Regulation			
	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015
JUL	42	22	19	22	52	48	54	60	53	87	73	90
AUG	47	23	30	36	69	48	43	60	108	87	72	73
SEPT	43	30	21	20	57	45	61	68	70	95	42	68
1st Qtr:	132	75	70	78	178	141	158	188	231	269	187	231
OCT	56	47	27	30	64	53	38	53	84	84	66	68
NOV	60	33	21	12	37	58	24	50	90	67	64	63
DEC	44	19	22	18	46	34	55	42	84	80	57	65
2nd Qtr:	160	99	70	60	147	145	117	145	258	231	187	196
JAN	53	42	22		42	38	32		74	103	69	
FEB	53	36	17		33	32	48		87	100	62	
MAR	41	31	29		31	48	44		88	71	59	
3rd Qtr:	147	109	68	0	106	118	124	0	249	274	190	0
APR	44	26	30		36	45	47		81	95	71	
MAY	39	27	27		36	47	55		83	72	80	
JUN	31	23	32		48	45	57		83	62	78	
4th Qtr:	114	76	89	0	120	137	159	0	247	229	229	0

Source of Complaints



QUARTER SNAPSHOT

Opened Complaints: 388

- 145 Workmanship
- 60 Money Owing
- 196 Industry Regulation

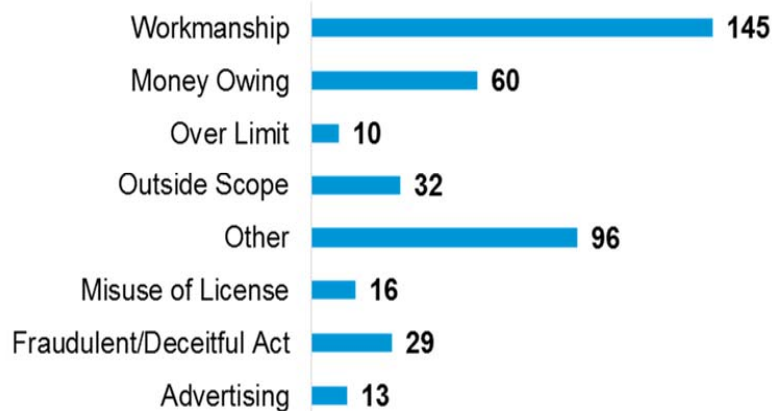
Closed Complaints: 432

- 176 Single-family residences
- 13 Multi-family residences
- 8 Public works projects
- 67 Commercial projects

83 Administrative citations issued
21 Cases referred for disciplinary hearing

- 7 licenses revoked
- Fines imposed on 17 cases

Violation Types



Enforcement - *Unlicensed Contractors*

NSCB's Criminal Investigations Division responds to all unlicensed contractor complaints. After gathering evidence, the Board submits cases to the district attorney, who may file and prosecute misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor or felony charges.

QUARTER SNAPSHOT

362 Opened Complaints
 208 Contracting w/o license
 149 Unlawful Advertising
 6 Criminal Fraud

384 Closed Complaints
 140 Criminal charges filed
 150 Convictions recorded
 143 Misdemeanor
 5 Gross Misdemeanor
 2 Felony
 140 Cease and Desist
 Orders

**Nearly \$1.74 million in
 contract value lost to
 unlicensed contractors
 in the last three months**

**O
c
t** **\$118,550**

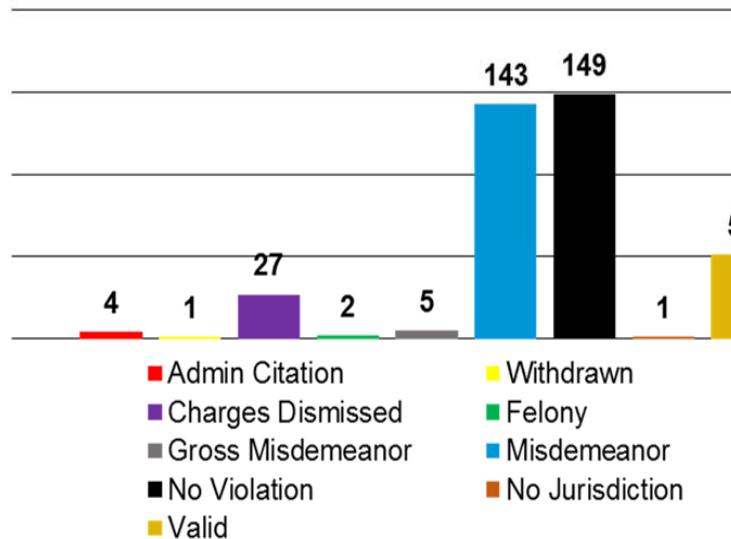
**N
o
v** **\$327,050**

**D
e
c** **\$1,297,870**

Criminal Complaints Filed

	Complaints	Complaints	Complaints	Complaints
JUL	93	128	107	131
AUG	138	114	89	109
SEPT	80	81	89	121
1st Qtr:	311	323	285	361
OCT	105	106	92	148
NOV	60	64	101	100
DEC	73	57	55	114
2nd Qtr:	238	227	248	362
JAN	73	107	111	
FEB	107	104	121	
MAR	107	83	121	
3rd Qtr:	287	294	353	0
APR	136	117	164	
MAY	119	114	164	
JUN	148	119	135	
4th Qtr:	403	350	463	0

Closed Case Outcomes



Stings net 20 citations, 3 arrests

During undercover sting operations in October, the Nevada State Contractors Board cited 20 alleged unlicensed contractors for violations of Nevada Revised Statutes 624.700 (contracting without a license) and NRS 624.720 (advertising without a license).

Local police departments

assisting with the operations in Reno and Las Vegas arrested three suspects on various charges. The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department arrested Kamyar “Kevin” Moradi on an NSCB gross misdemeanor warrant and Michael Lucero on a felony warrant for narcotics possession. The Reno Police

Department arrested William Sanborn, a former licensed contractor, on an outstanding fraud warrant. Another alleged suspect, Timothy Penn, was cited twice for contracting without a license, after visiting both Reno sting locations,

See STING, page 9

SUSPECT

Mauricio Ballinas-Arellano
Constantino Francisdaky
Timothy Penn
Mark Roll
William Sanborn*

RENO OPERATION

ALLEGED VIOLATION

Contracting without a License
Contracting without a License/Advertising without a License
Contracting without a License/Advertising without a License
Contracting without a License/Advertising without a License
Misdemeanor Fraud Warrant

SUSPECT

Hipolito Aguilar
Lawrence Blackburn
Joseph William Bosco
Cesar Cantu-Robles
Thomas Casciano
Javier De La Torre
Daniel Garde
Robert L. Jensen
Michael Kendinian
Michael Lucero *
Robert Manzanares
Samuel Monzulla
Kamyar “Kevin” Moradi*
Zachary Perry
Gustavo Prieto
Anthony Slepsky
Angelus Yonko

LAS VEGAS OPERATION

ALLEGED VIOLATION

Advertising without a License
Advertising without a License
Advertising without a License
Contracting without a License/Advertising without a License
Contracting without a License
Advertising without a License
Contracting without a License/Advertising without a License
Advertising without a License
Contracting without a License
Felony Narcotics Possession/Contracting without a License
Contracting without a License
Advertising without a License
Contracting without a License Gross misdemeanor
Advertising without a License
Contracting without a License/Advertising without a License
Advertising without a License
Advertising without a License

* Arrested by local law enforcement

STING from page 8

which were located two doors apart, on the same day.

“The Nevada State Contractors Board extends its appreciation to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and Reno Police Department for their participation in our sting events,” stated NSCB Executive Officer Margi Grein. “Being able to partner together on public safety initiatives sends a clear message that unlicensed contracting activities are serious crimes and will not be tolerated in our communities.”

According to Nevada law, all electrical, plumbing, air conditioning and heating work must be performed by licensed contractors. All work in other



trades requires a license if the value 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.

NSCB 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, or the Board’s mobile application. 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.



Nevada State Contractors Board

MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For veterans making the transition into civilian employment and spouses of active-duty military personnel relocating with their service members to Nevada

- A dedicated, specially trained NSCB staff member to evaluate transferable military training and experience from all branches of the military that meet minimum contractor licensing requirements.
- Military experience and training will be considered along with college credit when the Board evaluates acceptable technical education levels for license applicants.
- Military spouses’ current records of licensure will be evaluated to determine whether he/she is eligible for waiver of certain experience requirements for licensure.



To determine eligibility or for questions concerning NSCB’s expedited service for veterans and military spouses, contact License Analyst Barbara Miller at 775-850-7814 or 702-486-1100, extension 7814, or e-mail her at bamiller@nscb.state.nv.us

New case results in 3 counts for unlicense activity

A Nevada State Contractors Board investigation led to the arrest of Kris Salomonson for engaging in business or submitting a bid without a license.

The current complaint uncovered the suspect, who had been evading law enforcement in the wake of two similar incidents that resulted in two active bench warrants for Salomonson.

The Nevada Highway Patrol arrested Salomonson at the NCSB Henderson office after he was called in to discuss the current charge. That case resulted in a third contracting without a license gross misdemeanor charge being submitted to the district attorney.



Kris Salomonson is taken into custody by two Nevada Highway Patrolmen at the Contractors Board's Henderson office. He faces three gross misdemeanor charges of contracting without a license.

Board expands education initiatives

Thanks to the success of the Nevada State Contractors Board's Community Managers presentations, the Board has seen opportunities to educate other groups on their rights and responsibilities when hiring contractors for repair, maintenance or expansion of common areas.

Staff soon will present a similar discussion with a non-profit community group that works with the state to assist in coordi-

nating Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant construction services. The Board is in the process of developing a tailored presentation for the organization's staff.

It is hoped that the chance to educate those who assist in the hiring of contractors in the scope of their day-to-day activities will give NSCB a forum to promote the hiring of licensed contractors and encourage the public at large to take advantage

of the Board's services.

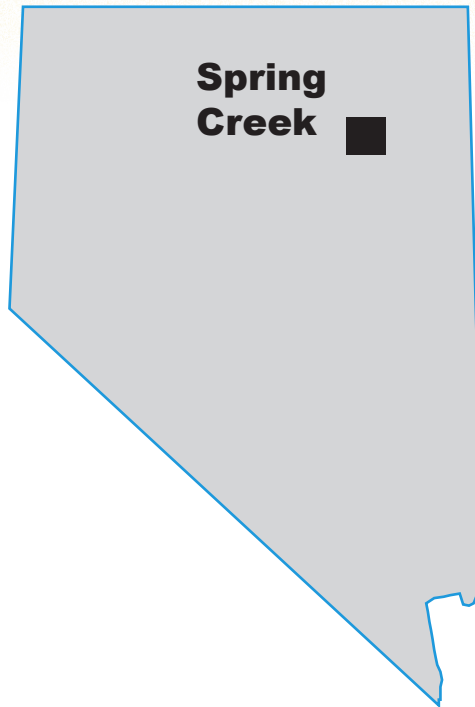
In November, the Board further promoted its enforcement program, and public safety purpose and operations at a meeting of the Nevada Sheriffs and Chiefs Association. This was an opportunity to emphasize the similarities between the Board's mission and that of law enforcement. The presentation included information on how officers can engage with the Board through sting events, how to recognize construction crimes and more.

Big Board bust in rural Nevada

The citation of an unlicensed contractor in Spring Creek led to multiple additional charges against licensed contractors with whom the suspect collaborated.

Events began to unfold near the end of 2013, when NSCB investigators received an anonymous complaint about a person without a valid Nevada contractor's license allegedly performing work at various locations around Spring Creek. Upon visiting the job sites, investigators identified the suspect and issued him a citation for contracting without a license.

The investigation didn't end there, however. Following up on information they obtained from witnesses and interrogation of the original suspect, Board investigators learned the suspect had been working as an "independent contractor" for multiple license holders. Entering into agreements such



as "general power of attorney" and "authorization to act as agent," the licensed contractors allowed the unlicensed person to pull permits, schedule inspections, perform residential construction work and undertake all acts on behalf of their businesses.

Further evidence uncovered that this case was not the only

"independent contractor" being used by the licensees. As many as 18 unlicensed contractors were found to be performing work under such illegal agreements with the group of licensees.

The expanded investigation resulted in eight misdemeanor charges against the original unlicensed individual being submitted to the Elko district attorney's office. He was charged with engaging in business or submitting a bid without a contractor's license. Additional misdemeanor cases were forwarded to the district attorney against the other unlicensed contractors the case uncovered.

All the licensed contractors involved were found guilty of aiding and abetting unlicensed contractors and attempting to assign, transfer or otherwise dispose of a license or permit its unauthorized use.

Compliance tips for Nevada's licensed contractors

- Prominently display your license number and monetary limit on all bids, contracts and marketing material, including trade show displays, service vehicles, business cards, letterhead and websites.
- Notify the Board of any changes to your address, qualifying person or other relevant information within the statutory timeframe.
- Including the relevant Residential Recovery Fund language on all residential contracts.
- Never advertise, bid or contract for work outside the scope or monetary limit of your license. When hiring subcontractors, always check that their licenses are active and valid for the work they are to perform.
- Don't forget to renew your license online. You also can find instructions on expanding the license's scope or limit, changing a business address or a qualified person and more at http://www.nscb.nv.gov/contractor_apps.html.

Longtime Board target arrested on felony charge

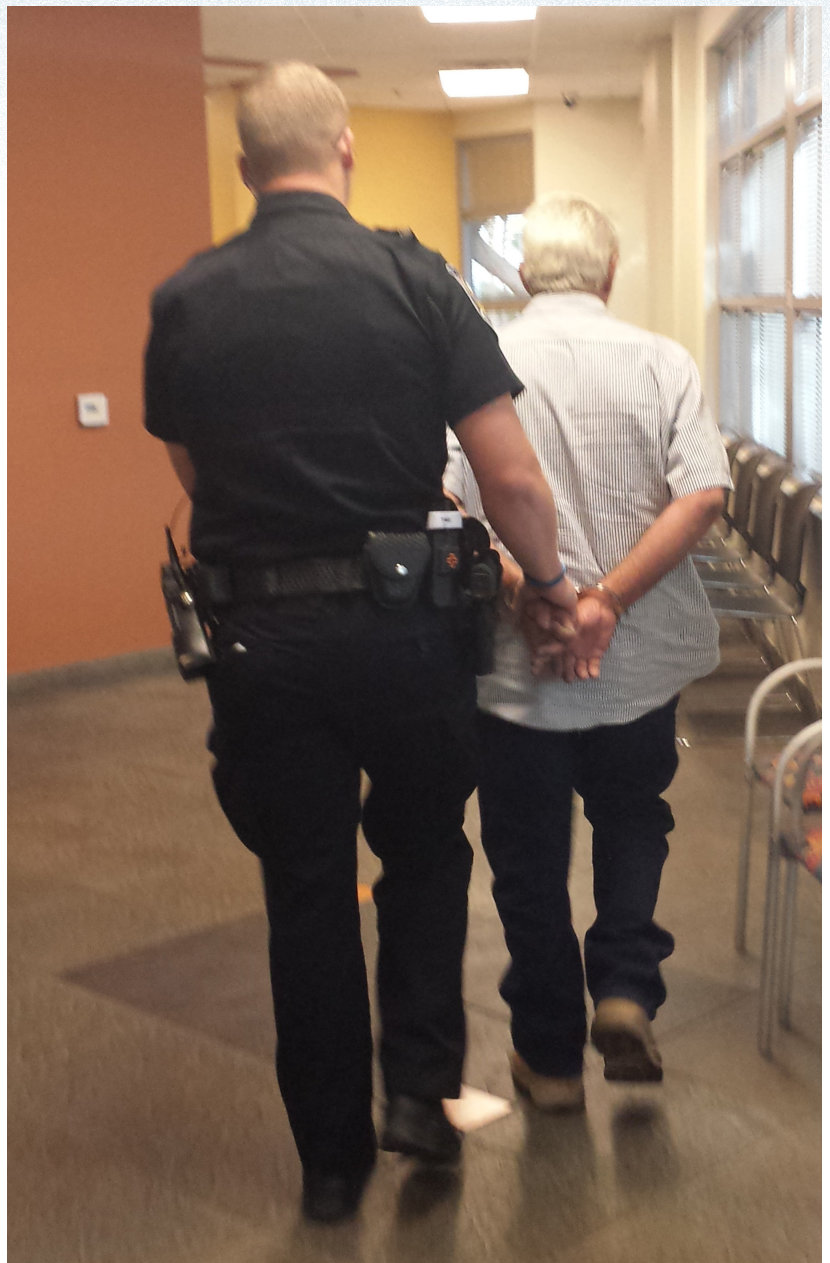
The Nevada Highway Patrol arrested a longtime person of interest to the Nevada State Contractors Board on Oct. 30, 2014.

Michael Delbridge had been called for an interview at the NSCB Henderson office and was taken into custody on a felony contracting without a license warrant issued from the Clark County District Attorney's Office.

Delbridge has been the subject of nearly 20 NSCB investigations since the early 1990s. Using business names such as "Design Consultants," "Road-Runner Construction," and "Michael R. Delbridge Co.," Delbridge is accused of obtaining referrals, either from satisfied customers or from accomplices placing advertisements for his services.

Upon contacting a potential customer, Delbridge, it is alleged, claimed to be licensed and insured and asked for a sizable down payment to begin the project. According to NSCB investigators, Delbridge then hired unlicensed subcontractors to begin the work, which was disrupted when he failed to pay them.

In one case, a homeowner, an elderly cancer patient, said she was enticed to "invest" in Delbridge's company, with promises that her investment and interest would be repaid after the projects were completed. Other complainants provided evidence that some work initiated by Delbridge was done incorrectly and would require demolition in order to meet local building codes.



A highway patrolman leads Michael Delbridge out of the Contractors Board office in Henderson. Delbridge has been charged with felony contracting without a license.

Call routing improves customer service

During the quarter, NSCB's Information Technology department upgraded the routing of customer service calls to an automatic call distribution system. This new method improves customer experience by ensuring calls are sent only to monitored and staffed extensions. Additionally, calls are no longer sent to a generic voice mailbox. The ACD queues are easily monitored by supervisors to help match staffing levels to call volumes.

NSCB recognizes call for jobs stimulus

During a Nov. 6 press conference at the Nevada State Contractors Board offices, NSCB joined the Nevada Commission on Construction Education, Associated General Contractors and Nevada Contractors Association, Las Vegas Chapter and AGC of America to shed light on Nevada's construction workforce shortages as a result of the latest economic downturn.

AGC's data, however, does indicate that construction employment is picking up steam, with more than half of the 14,000 new construction jobs coming in the last year. Ken Simonson, chief economist for the Associated General Contractors of America, noted that half of Nevada's construction firms are finding it difficult to fill craft worker positions. Sean Stewart, AGC/NCA Las Vegas Chapter president, highlighted education, training and other workforce development initiatives being offered through their association, calling special



KEN SIMONSON

attention to grant funding received from the Commission in recent years as an integral contributor. Commission member Shawn Danoski addressed the commission's responsibility for reviewing program proposals and awarding grant funding from the Construction Education Fund, which has provided more than \$2.7 million in grant awards since its inception. The commission receives its funding from donations and fines

paid by licensed contractors.

"We at the Contractors Board have seen the impact of the economic downturn on the construction community in recent years, and we support the efforts being made by the commission, educational systems, apprenticeship programs and the construction industry as a whole to make workforce development a priority for current and future generations," stated NSCB Executive Officer Margi Grein.

Simonson unveiled AGC's Workforce Development Plan for the 21st Century, which includes calls for government and private-sector investment and legal reforms to increase the construction labor pool: federal funding of technical education, encouraging private funding for craft worker training, immigration reform and public-private partnerships among apprenticeship programs, community colleges, veteran's service providers, etc.

Board reduces Recovery Fund assessment

At its Nov. 13, 2014 meeting, the Nevada State Contractors Board voted to once again reduce the assessment contractors pay into the Residential Recovery Fund. The new, lower rates went into effect Jan. 1, 2015. The Board's decision to lower the rates by 20 percent means licenses with limits of \$1 million or less will pay \$60 per biennium. License limits of more than \$1 million will pay \$200 per biennium. Unlimited licenses will pay \$400 per biennium.

The Nevada State Legislature established the Residential Recovery Fund to provide protection for Nevada homeowners whose properties are harmed by the failure of a licensed contractor to properly perform qualified services including construction, remodeling, repair and improvement. The Board action reduction marks the third fee reduction in three years. The Board previously reduced the assessment at the beginning of 2012 and in July 2013.

Board revokes 11 licenses

The Nevada State Contractors Board revoked 10 licenses and took action against 11 other licensed contractors for violations of Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 624 during its October, November and December 2014 hearings in Henderson and Reno.

Scott Meek & Son Concrete Co., license number 23322 (concrete contracting), based out of Reno, Nev., was found in violation for failure to pay for materials or services rendered and failure to establish financial responsibility. The license was revoked. Licensee was fined \$1,500 and assessed investigative costs.

Innovative Outdoor Living and Hardscapes, LLC, license number 78036 (residential and small commercial), based out of Sparks, Nev., was found in violation for abandonment of a construction project without legal excuse, acting in the capacity of a contractor beyond the scope of the license, and failure to establish financial responsibility. The license was revoked. Licensee was fined \$1,750, assessed investigative costs, and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$20,000.

Custom Design Cabinets of Las Vegas, license number 51576 (finish carpentry), based out of Las Vegas, Nev., was found in violation for substandard workmanship, failure to take appropriate corrective action, failure to comply with a written request from the Board, and failure to establish financial responsibility. The license was revoked. Licensee was fined \$1,250, assessed investigative costs, and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$9,400.

Advanced Lighting & Electric, Inc., license numbers 78258 (erecting signs) and 68333 (electrical contracting), based out of Henderson, Nev., was found in violation for failure to notify the Board of a change in personnel or address within 30 days of the change. License number 78258 was voluntarily surrendered. Licensee has 30 days of the hearing to pay fines of \$500 and

investigative costs or license number 68333 will be suspended.

D.C. Stone, LLC, license number 78758 (finishing floors), based out of Las Vegas, Nev., was found in violation for aiding or abetting, combining or conspiring with, allowing a licensed to be used by, and acting as an agent, partner, or associate of an unlicensed person. Licensee was fined \$2,000 and assessed investigative costs. The license limit was reduced to \$10,000.

Tommy Li, owner, dba T&L Stone Design & Remodeling, license number 77778 (finish carpentry) and **Tommy Li, owner, dba T&L Stone**, license numbers 67842 (tiling) and 77510 (install terrazzo and marble), based out of Las Vegas, Nev., was found in violation for substandard workmanship, failure to include the monetary license limit or license number on a contract or proposal, willful disregard of the state's building laws, contracting beyond the scope of the license, and failure to establish financial responsibility. Licensee was fined \$2,050 and assessed investigative costs. The license limit for license number 67842 was reduced to \$10,000.

1st Choice Storage Solutions, license numbers 54686 (carpentry) and 59785 (painting), based out of Scottsdale, Ariz., was found in violation for lending a license to an unauthorized person who is not on the license, aiding or abetting an unlicensed contractor, and failure to establish financial responsibility. The license was revoked. Licensee was assessed investigative costs.

A.A.C.A., LLC, dba Mr. Rooter Plumbing, license number 73696 (plumbing), based out of Las Vegas, Nev., was found in violation for disregarding state industrial insurance laws. Licensee was fined \$500 and assessed investigative costs. Failure to pay will result in the license being suspended.

See DISCIPLINE, page 15

DISCIPLINE from page 14

Nicco Construction, LLC, license numbers 65339 (general building) and 68214 (low-voltage), based out of Las Vegas, Nev., was found in violation for failure to include the license number or monetary limit on a bid or contract and disregard of the state's building laws. Licensee was fined \$1,100 and assessed investigative costs. Failure to pay will result in the licenses being suspended.

Custom Tile and Stone, Inc., dba Pounders Custom Floors, license number 62184 (tiling), based out of Las Vegas, Nev., was found in violation for accepting a bid from an unlicensed person, acting in the capacity of a contractor beyond the scope of the license, and failure to establish financial responsibility. Licensee was fined \$1,500 and assessed investigative costs. Failure to pay will result in the license being suspended.

M.R.I. Solar, LLC, license number 76875 (water heating), based out of Henderson, Nev., was found in violation for failure to respond to a written request from the Board, bidding or contracting for a construction contract in excess of the limit placed on the license, failure to keep in place a bond or cash deposit, and failure to establish financial responsibility. The license was revoked. Licensee was fined \$4,500 and assessed investigative costs.

Ability Air Conditioning, Inc., license number 68391 (refrigeration and air conditioning), **Re-New Tech, Inc., dba Efficient Air Conditioning**, license number 69445 (refrigeration and air conditioning) and **Re-New Tech, Inc., dba Roof Repair Experts**, license number 70495 (roofing and siding), based out of Henderson, Nev., was found in violation for substandard workmanship, failure to take appropriate corrective action, failure to include Residential Recovery Fund information on a contract or proposal, disregard of the state's building laws, failure to establish financial responsibility and failure to keep in force a bond or cash deposit.

Ability Air Conditioning, license number

68391 was voluntarily surrendered. Licensee was fined \$2,850 and assessed investigative costs.

Mark Steven Ray, dba High Sierra Weatherproofing, license number 51105 (painting), based out of Sparks, Nev., was found in violation for aiding or abetting an unlicensed person, acting as an agent, partner or association of an unlicensed person, failure to include the license number or monetary limit on a bid or contract, and failure to establish financial responsibility. Licensee was fined \$1,300 and assessed investigative costs. The license limit was reduced to \$18,000.

Jerry John Mares, dba Mares Framing, license number 53818 (carpentry), based out of Reno, Nev., was found in violation for failure to pay for materials or services, failure to keep in force a bond or case deposit, and failure to establish financial responsibility. The license was revoked. Licensee was fined \$3,000 and assessed investigative costs.

Advanced Window and Door, LLC, license number 78068 (glass and glazing), based out of Las Vegas, Nev., was found in violation for failure to establish financial responsibility and failure to comply with a written request from the board. The license was revoked. Licensee was fined \$1,000 and assessed investigative costs.

Sione Kanatea Pine, dba Pines Masonry, license number 52149 (masonry), based out of Las Vegas, Nev., was found in violation for substandard workmanship, failure to include the license number or monetary limit on a bid or contract, and contacting beyond the scope of the license. Licensee was fined \$550 and assessed investigative costs. The license limit was reduced to \$10,000.

Yan Hong Liu, dba C&L Enterprise, license number 60690 (residential and small commercial), based out of Las Vegas, Nev., was found in violation for misuse of a license and Failure to provide information on subcontractors and ma-

See DISCIPLINE, page 16

Be a “card-carrying” licensed contractor

The Nevada State Contractors Board continuously reminds property owners to check contractors’ pocket identification cards before agreeing to proposals, signing contracts or allowing anyone to perform work on their homes or businesses.

As these outreach efforts continue, NSCB also encourages all licensed contractors to carry the pocket cards while on the job and especially in situations where they think they might be soliciting business or talking to potential customers.

The hard plastic license pocket cards recently were redesigned to include NSCB’s logo and the state seal in addition to the license number, business name, classification(s), and license expiration date. One card is issued upon issuance and renewal of the license. NSCB allows con-



tracting companies to purchase additional cards at \$10 each to distribute to key on-site personnel to use when potential customers inquire about services.

To obtain additional pocket cards, call the Board offices at 702-486-1100 in southern Nevada or 775-688-1141 in northern Nevada.

DISCIPLINE from page 15

terial providers of \$500 or more for a project. Licensee was fined \$1,500 and assessed investigative costs.

Sienna Splash Technologies, LLC, license number 77956 (maintenance and repair of pools and spas), based out of Lake Havasu City, Ariz. The license was revoked.

D’Alessio Contracting, license numbers 52313 (lathing and plastering) and 52314 (painting and decorating), based out of Las Vegas, Nev., was found in violation for failure to establish financial responsibility, failure to respond to

a written request from the Board, and failure to keep in force a bond or cash deposit. The licenses were revoked. Licensee was fined \$1,750 and assessed investigative costs.

Focusmicro, Inc., license number 74254 (low voltage), based out of Mukilteo, Wash., was found in violation for failure to establish financial responsibility, failure to respond to a written request from the Board, and failure to notify the Board of a change in address or personnel. The license was revoked. Licensee was fined \$850 and assessed investigative costs.



BUMPER STICKERS

Help educate the public. Place our new bumper stickers on your work vehicles today!

Verify solar suppliers' licenses

In recent months, the Nevada State Contractors Board has been seeing an increase in the number of out-of-state solar manufacturers entering into contracts with licensed Nevada contractors to perform solar installation services for Nevada residents.

Many of the out-of-state manufacturers do not possess Nevada contractors' licenses, and the Nevada contractors performing installation services for such businesses are being disciplined by the Board for aiding and abetting these unlicensed contractors.

NSCB wishes to caution solar and electrical contractors and the industry at large to always verify that the entity being contracted with is a licensed Nevada contractor.

Licenses can be verified by visiting our website at www.nscb.nv.gov, checking the license on our mobile application (iPhone or Android), or calling the Board directly at 702-486-1100 or 775-688-1141.

Any suspicious or unlicensed activities should be reported to NSCB's Unlicensed Contractor Hotline at 702-486-1160 or 775-850-7838.



Solar boom reveals shady practices

At a time when the demand is high for solar and renewable energy solutions, aggressive efforts from out-of-state manufacturers to sell and install their products in Nevada homes is becoming more and more rampant.

Over the last year NSCB investigators have seen an influx of cases in which out-of-state manufacturers of solar products will hire independent sales representatives to perform door-to-door solicitations on Nevada homeowners. Unknowing homeowners are enticed by the promises their energy bill will be immediately

and drastically reduced, that they will receive federal tax breaks and that rebates available make the cost a deal too good to pass up. Too often the promised savings fails to materialize.

Unwitting customers sign contracts, and the out-of-state manufacturer hires a Nevada licensed contractor to perform the installation. The licensed contractors are jeopardizing their licenses, and the out-of-state manufacturers are savvy in their methods to distance themselves from the transaction while ensuring they receive payment for the service.

Often out-of-state, third-party lenders finance the projects. The Contractors Board has investigated cases in which homeowners have agreed to the plan thinking they had locked in at a low rate, only to find out the rate spikes dramatically after the first payment.

This scenario played out during the past quarter, resulting in the revocation of MRI Solar's license. This is a trend likely to increase over the next few years, and the Board will remain vigilant in an effort to protect homeowners and legitimate, licensed contractors.

Continued Education & Training

Technology has changed the way different industries operate. It has even changed the construction industry. In order to keep up with changing technology and information, it has become a necessity to continually seek training and education. If you are interested in furthering your education and training your employees, please click on links to various OSHA safety, construction and computer courses. Links will direct you to various educational institutions located in Northern and Southern Nevada. Contact information will be listed, so please direct any questions regarding the courses to the educational institutions.

Southern Nevada

College of Southern Nevada

CSN Course Schedule (.pdf)

**Please Note: The CSN Course Schedule link is a PDF document. The following pages and categories are listed for your convenience. Note, too, that some courses may require prerequisites.*

Air Conditioning Technology - pg. 5

Computer Office Technology - pg. 31

Building Information Modeling - pg. 7

Fire Protection - pg. 62

Building Codes, pg. 7, pg. 16

Geographic Information Systems - pg. 65

Construction Technology - pg. 20

Mechanical Technology, pg. 85

Computer Aided Drafting/Design - pg. 22

Sustainable Construction - pg. 110

Construction Management - pg. 31

General Inquiries Contact: (702) 650-2276

OSHA Safety Courses

<http://tinyurl.com/6pa9vyx>

Computer Courses

<http://tinyurl.com/6twzcu>

Computer Basics

<http://tinyurl.com/6wubnmm>

Contact:

OSHAOTIEC@csn.edu or
1 (877) 651-OSHA

Contact:

DWED@csn.edu
(702) 651-4747

Contact:

DWED@csn.edu
(702) 651-4747

Northern Nevada

Truckee Meadows Community College

Safety and Training Courses: <http://tinyurl.com/7m226hq>
contact: salquist@tmcc.edu or (775) 857-4958

Computer Courses: <http://tinyurl.com/7jdvmmr>
Contact: wdce@tmcc.edu or (775) 829-9010

TMCC Course Schedule

***Please Note:** This link is a PDF document. The following pages, categories and phone numbers are listed for your convenience. Some courses may require prerequisites. For information, call **(775) 673-7000..**



Air Conditioning Courses - pg. D-191

Architecture - pg. D-196

Building Inspection - pg. D-205

CADD - pg. D-209

Computer & Office Technology - pg. D-211

Construction - pg. D-215

Electrical Technology - pg. D-234

Great Basin College

Course catalog

General Inquiries Contact (775) 738-8493

Great Basin College offers several courses of interest to Nevada's contractors:

Computer Aided Drafting & Design

Electrical Theory

Industrial Millwright Technology

Geographic Information Systems

Computer Office Technology

Welding

Western Nevada College

Course Schedule: <http://www.wnc.edu/academics/catalog/all/>

Courses of interest to contractors include:

Air Conditioning

Applied Industrial Technology

Building Codes and Inspections

Computer Aided Drafting Design

Construction Management and Trade Courses

Geographic Information Systems

Computer Applications/Internet Courses

Photovoltaic and Alternative Energy Courses

Contact: info_desk@wnc.edu or (775) 445-3000





Nevada Contractor's Checklist

The following information is provided to help Nevada Contractors work within the law. For full text of laws that affect contracting in Nevada, see The State of Nevada "State Contractors Board Handbook," Chapter 624 of the Nevada Revised Statutes and Chapter 624 of the Nevada Administration Code. Contact the Nevada State Contractors Board for a copy.

- Always make sure license number and monetary limit is on all contracts or bids. NAC 624.640(5)
- Keep your bond current. NRS 624.270
- Check to ensure that licenses or persons with whom you contract are valid and active. NAC 624.650
- Be sure name of business under which contractor is contracting is the same as the license number. NRS 624.305
- Be sure the amount of the bid or contract is within the monetary limit of the contractor. NRS 624.3015(2)
- Be sure that the contract is within the scope of work/license classification. NRS 624.3015(3)
- Know what you are contracting for, verify terms of the contract, and comply with terms of the contract. NRS 624.3013(1)
- If it is not in your written contract, it doesn't exist. Make sure all change orders are in writing and signed by all parties. NRS 624.3013(1)
- Include Residential Recovery Fund Disclosure on all residential contracts. NRS 624.520
- Provide customers with required Notice to Owner Disclosure. NRS 624.600(1)(2) and (3) as described in NAC 624.693 & NAC 624.6932
- Make sure your license number is on all business advertisements, including vehicles, business cards, letterhead, signage, directories, newspapers, website, etc. NRS 624.720
- Always make sure license number and monetary limit is on all contracts or bids. NAC 624.640(5)
- Your license number should be approximately 1 1/2 inches on your motor vehicle. NRS 624.288
- If your address or other pertinent information about the business changes, notify Contractors Board in writing within 30 days. NAC 624.640(3)