



NEVADA STATE CONTRACTORS BOARD

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Randy Escamilla
Public Information Officer
Office: (702) 486-1139
rescamilla@nscb.state.nv.us

JUDGE THROWS THE BOOK AT LAS VEGAS-BASED SOLAR COMPANY

Nevada State Contractors Board imposes maximum possible fine, \$460,000, and permanently bans Solarize LLC company leaders from working as Nevada contractors

LAS VEGAS and RENO, NEV. – The Nevada State Contractors Board (NSCB) took its most severe action so far this year against a solar company by revoking its license and barring its leaders from ever working as contractors in the state. Solarize LLC is also facing huge fines for what the prosecutor called, “flagrant behavior,” including the harm caused to 13 homeowners in this case. At a June 12th NSCB Disciplinary Hearing Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Richard Scotti found Solarize LLC, dba Get Solarize, liable for violating Nevada statutes on 46 counts and failing to heed the NSCB’s multiple warnings against harming homeowners. “I’m going to find that they (Solarize LLC) have caused extensive massive harm to homeowners and remain a continued public danger,” Judge Scotti said. Because of the large volume of complaints and allegations against the company, the NSCB has permanently banned and prohibits Solarize LLC management from ever working as Nevada contractors. The disgraced contractors are:

- Frances Kim Le
- Michael Sean Hogan
- Hamid Moradi

In addition to the ban, the ALJ handed down the maximum fine possible; \$10,000 for each of the 46 violations against Solarize LLC including charges of:

- abandonment,
- diversion of funds,
- workmanship issues,
- failing to provide documents, and
- failing to cooperate with an investigation.

Homeowner Barbara Erekson cheered the NSCB’s ruling against Solarize LLC and calls the judge’s rulings a victory for consumers. “It’s like the Wild Wild West out there. I just don’t want solar companies to harm anymore homeowners,” she said. A Nevada State Contractors Board investigation found Solarize workers placed the wrong inverters on Erekson’s home and caused damages totaling \$21,500. Solarize LLC has faced previous NSCB sanctions prior to this ruling.

The judge’s order is the strongest punishment against a solar company since the NSCB launched its Solar Investigations Unit in April. The Nevada State Contractors Board wants these sanctions to send a message to unscrupulous solar company contractors. Roughly one-third of all complaints coming in to the NSCB are related

to problems with solar companies.

The Nevada State Contractors Board reminds homeowners who may be considering or approached about installing solar to:

- Only hire an NSCB licensed contractor
- Verify a contractor's license is active at NVContractorsBoard.com
- Get three bids for the same scope of work
- Never be pressured to sign any contract.
- Review contracts with family members or an attorney
- Solar systems are never free
- Beware of anyone knocking on your door selling solar systems.
- It's the law: Down payments can only be 10 percent of the total amount of the project or \$1000; whichever is less.

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The Nevada State Contractors Board is committed to ensuring the integrity and professionalism of the construction industry in Nevada. The NSCB has the responsibility to promote quality construction by Nevada licensed contractors through a regulatory licensing system designed to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public. For more information about the Nevada State Contractors Board, please visit www.nscb.nv.gov.

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NORTHERN NEVADA OFFICE: (775) 688-1141 - 5390 Kietzke Ln., #102, Reno, NV 89511
SOUTHERN NEVADA OFFICE: (702) 486-1100 - 8400 West Sunset Road, Suite 150, Las Vegas, NV 89113 (
www.nscb.nv.gov