



# NEVADA STATE CONTRACTORS BOARD NEWS RELEASE

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## **CONTRACTORS BOARD JOINS NATIONAL ENFORCEMENT EFFORT FOCUSED ON UNLAWFUL ADVERTISING AND CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES**

**LAS VEGAS and RENO, NEV.** – The Nevada State Contractors Board joined states from across the nation in an undercover enforcement operation coordinated by the National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies (NASCLA) between October 14-25, 2024. Nevada’s statewide operation aimed to identify unlawful advertising practices online and visit active job site to verify licensure.

The Board’s week-long enforcement effort included two undercover operations where 22 unlicensed contractors unlawfully advertising online were contacted to provide a bid for a fictitious residential project, as well as 59 unannounced job site visits where 337 license details were verified. As a result, the Board opened 27 criminal cases, issued 16 Cease and Desist Orders, 16 Administrative citations, 19 violation letters, and opened one case for violations of industry regulations.

“Combating unlicensed contracting activities is a daily focus of the Nevada State Contractors Board and we look forward to participating in NASCLA’s nationwide event each year alongside many of our state partners who endure the same challenges we face within the construction industry,” shared Executive Officer David Behar. “Our common goal is to protect consumers across our communities and the easiest way to do that in Nevada is to always verify a contractor is properly licensed with the Board.”

Consumers who hire licensed contractors have four years from the start of their project to file a complaint with the Nevada State Contractors Board. The Board opens an investigation into the complaint items, and if validated, issues a Notice to Correct; failure to comply may result in disciplinary action against the licensee and eligibility for the consumer to file a claim for recovery of damages up to \$40,000 from the Residential Recovery Fund.

“Verifying a license with the Board is done easily through the Board’s website, mobile application, or by calling our office directly,” states Director of Investigations Terry Wike. “When possible, never rush your decision to hire someone to perform work in or around your home. Obtain at least three bids, verify license details, and take time to read and understand the contract terms before you sign an agreement.”

Nevada recently enacted a new law limiting the down payment for any residential home improvement

projects to no more than \$1,000 or 10% of the aggregate contract value – a protection the Contractors Board believes will help reduce complaints of project abandonment and excessive payments. Consumers can find helpful resources on the Board’s website ([www.nscb.nv.gov](http://www.nscb.nv.gov)), including a [Contract Checklist for Home Improvement Projects](#).

The following are examples of predatory tactics often associated with unlawful construction activities:

- Demands for cash payments and large deposits prior to work beginning.
- Unwillingness to provide a written contract.
- Unsolicited home visits with an individual(s) eager to gain access to your home; won’t take no for an answer.
- Aggressively pushes “today only” special or has extra materials left over from previous job; can start right away!

Consumers with concerns related to their construction project with a licensed or unlicensed entity are encouraged to file a complaint with the Nevada State Contractors Board. Unlicensed contracting activities can also be reported to the Board by phone or through the Board’s mobile application.

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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](http://www.nscb.nv.gov).*

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