Contact: Art Nadler, Public Information Officer (702) 486-1100 x1139 or (775) 688-1141 x1139

<u>Unlicensed Contractor Chang To Be Extradited To Southern Nevada</u>



Richard Shun Chang, 43, dba Casey Construction Service, LLC, has been arrested in Northern California and will be extradited to Las Vegas on a felony warrant for *obtaining money under false pretenses* and a misdemeanor warrant for *engaging in business or submitting a bid*

without a license. Both warrants were issued by Justice Court in Las Vegas. The Nevada State Contractors Board is currently seeking to obtain two additional felony warrants against Chang.

Chang allegedly took more than \$200,000 from Chinese businessmen, primarily in Chinatown on Spring Mountain Road, Las Vegas, promising to do tenant business build-outs. Several business owners, who gave him large cash down payments, said he never did any work

The Special Investigations United of the Nevada State Contractors Board investigated the case and alleges Chang had been using the license number of a legitimate Nevada company, with a name similar to his phony company, and functioning as an unlicensed contractor – which was the basis for the criminal charges.

The Special Investigations Unit of the Nevada State Contractors Board is hard at work tracking and citing offenders and informing the public of their rights and responsibilities.

To assist in prosecuting illegal contracting, the Nevada State Contractors Board has launched an online "Ten Most Wanted." Individuals listed on the Ten Most Wanted website pages are those who have outstanding arrest warrants for unlicensed contracting activity. Contractors and members of the public can go online at **www.nscb.state.nv.us** and click "Ten Most Wanted" on the quick-link menu to review suspect's profiles. The website includes contact numbers to provide information about the individuals profiled.

Homeowners who use the services of a revoked or suspended contractor are not eligible for recovery of their damages through the Residential Recovery Fund. The NSCB urges the public to hire only licensed contractors in good standing with the Board. Consumers can verify contractors' licenses and obtain helpful tips for working with contractors by calling (775) 688-1141 in Northern Nevada, or (702) 486-1100 in Southern Nevada. Licenses can be verified 24 hours a day by logging on to www.nscb.state.nv.us.

The NSCB urges consumers to follow these simple tips when dealing with a contractor:

- Hire only licensed contractors. Ask to see the license.
- Don't rush into decisions or hire without checking out potential contractors.
- Be especially wary when approached by someone offering home improvements door-to door.
- Verify the contractor's licensed by checking online at www.nscb.state.nv.us or via automated phone service at (702) 486-1100 (Southern Nevada), or (775) 688-1141 (Northern Nevada).
- Ensure the contractor is properly licensed for the work you want done on your home.
- Limit the amount of your down payment or deposit to 10 percent of the total contract.
- Don't pay cash without obtaining signed receipts, and don't let the payments get ahead of the work.