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TEN MOST WANTED JOSE OCHOA **ARRESTED IN SOUTHERN NEVADA**



Jose Perez Ochoa - aka Octavio Cesar Hernandez- Ruiz, Jose Ochoa Perez, Emilio Ochoa, Alfredo Vargas and Octavio Cesar Hernandez – doing business as Custom Creations in One Company, Patio Covers & More and Patio Covers & Construction, was arrested by the North Las Vegas Police on Wednesday, Sept. 27, following an investigation by the Nevada State Contractors Board for unlicensed contracting. The fugitive was turned over to the Metropolitan Police and booked into the Clark County Detention Center.

Upon his arrest, it was discovered that he had eight other felony warrants for *obtaining money under false pretenses, theft, and unlawful acts as a contractor*. Ochoa also had one *gross misdemeanor warrant for unlawful acts as a contractor, five misdemeanors for contracting without a license* and one *misdemeanor of battery domestic violence*.

Ochoa had been listed on the Nevada State Contractors Board's Ten Most Wanted under his alias for two *felony contractor fraud warrants* issued by Justice Court in Las

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Vegas and North Las Vegas Justice Court. Ochoa had illegally contracted to build patio covers, accepting down payments and never doing any work.

The NSCB appreciates the quick response and assistance from the North Las Vegas Police Department in the apprehension of this wanted felon.

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.**

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- **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.**

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