



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

NSCB Investigators Cite Five Unlicensed Contractors In Centennial Hills Las Vegas Sting Operation

Nevada State Contractors Board investigators conducted a sting operation on Sept. 28, 2006, in the Centennial Hills area of Las Vegas in which five unlicensed contractors were given seven criminal misdemeanor citations.

Those cited to appear in Las Vegas Justice Court for submitting bids included: Eugene Ochoa, (*contracting without a license and unlawful advertising*), submitted a bid to install concrete; Alejandro Ocampo, (*contracting without a license and unlawful advertising*), submitted a bid to install concrete; Michelle Taylor, dba Ultimate Garage, (*contracting without a license*), submitted a bid to install hanging garage storage units; Kirk Krespi, dba Discount Painting, (*contracting without a license*), submitted a bid for painting; and Garcia Barrera, dba Barrera Lawn & Landscape, (*contracting without a license*), submitted bids for landscaping and to install concrete.

Contracting without a license in Nevada is a misdemeanor for the first offense, a gross misdemeanor for the second offense and a Class E felony for the third offense.

Homeowners should not use unlicensed contractors because their work is

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generally poor quality, they are often uninsured and may not maintain workman's compensation coverage for their employees, and the homeowner may be liable for all injuries to workers.

Homeowners who use unlicensed contractors are not eligible for the Residential Recovery Fund, and by law their contracts are null and void.

Consumers can check whether a contractor is licensed by calling: (702) 486-1100 in Southern Nevada, or (775) 688-1141 in Northern Nevada. License checks can also be conducted on the NSCB website at: www.nscb.state.nv.us

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