

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

## JOHN PAXSON ADDED TO NSCB'S TEN MOST WANTED IN NORTHERN NEVADA



John Avery Paxson has been added to the Nevada State Contractors Board's Ten Most Wanted. Paxson, *dba Welcome Home Builders*, has a misdemeanor warrant issued on him from Sparks Justice for allegedly *contracting without a license*. Paxson allegedly builds additions to existing

Paxon

homes using casual labor in Washoe and Douglas counties. He is known to live in his vehicle, a black 1979 Datsun station wagon, with Idaho plate number 1ATH960.

Paxson has a prior conviction for *contracting without a license* in Washoe County. His company had been listed in the telephone book yellow pages. He is a former licensed contractor from Michigan, who had his license revoked in 2000 and was fined and ordered to pay restitution to the complainant. Paxson had previously been a real estate agent in the Reno area

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.

The person(s) listed on the Nevada State Contractors Board Ten Most Wanted website and in press releases <u>have not been</u> convicted of the charges and are presumed innocent.

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.