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

## RONALD SAGUINDEL, MIGUEL PALACIOS ADDED TO NSCB'S TEN MOST WANTED





Ronald Serjia Saguindel and Miguel Vargas Palacios have been added to the Nevada State Contractors Board's Ten Most Wanted. Saguindel, *dba Tradewinds Construction*, has a felony warrant issued on him from Sparks

**Saguindel** Palacios
Township Justice for *felony theft*. Saguindel is an unlicensed contractor who allegedly was paid money by a homeowner to replace a shower, two bathroom floors and two cabinets. He failed to complete the work and is believed to be residing in California.

Palacios has two misdemeanor warrants for *contracting without a license* issued by North Las Vegas Justice Court and Las Vegas Justice Court and a felony warrant for *diversion of funds*, issued by Las Vegas Justice Court. Palacios allegedly signs contracts to do work, brings minimal amounts of materials to the jobsites and starts projects, but does not return to complete them. Homeowners claim their phone calls go unanswered.

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 <a href="https://www.nscb.state.nv.us">www.nscb.state.nv.us</a> 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.