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Two Reno Contractors Receive Citations For Alleged Unlicensed Activity

Nevada State Contractors Board investigators recently conducted sting operations in the Reno area for alleged unlicensed contracting activity.

Reynaldo Gamba-Ruiz, dba Extreme Professional Landscaping, was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*. Gamba-Ruiz provided a bid for the installation of pavers. He is a former Nevada contractor, license number 64928, who had his license cancelled for non-renewal.

Jenario Palacia was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*. Palacia provided a bid for the installation of pavers.

A “**Homeowner Alert!**” has been issued in Northern Nevada for residents to be on the lookout for an alleged unlicensed contractor going by the name of **Israel Contreras**. He is reportedly driving a red-and-white 1998 Ford pick-up truck with Nevada license plate numbers 662 TPS. Contreras was issued a criminal citation in 2008 for *contracting without a license*, and was convicted in Reno Justice Court Aug. 12, 2008. Homeowners in the Reno area have filed complaints with the Board, allegedly that he placed flyers advertising his services on their doors. Homeowners are advised to contact the Nevada State Contractors Board at: (775) 850-7838 if they see Contreras, or if he leaves landscaping or masonry work fliers on their doors.

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

The NSCB recommends that homeowners not use unlicensed contractors because their work is 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.

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 by clicking on the **“Contractor License Search & Disciplinary Actions Search”** icon.

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