

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

<u>Five Contractors Receive Citations</u> <u>For Alleged Unlicensed Activity;</u> <u>Charges Filed Against One In Clark County</u>

Nevada State Contractors Board investigators recently conducted sting operations in Northern Nevada for alleged unlicensed contracting activity. Those cited included:

Mark D. Wehrli, dba Mark's Handyman Service, was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*. Wehrli provided a bid for interior painting. He was advertising on Craig's List, which is frequently used by unlicensed contractors to advertise their services.

Thomas E. Carlson, dba We Do Hauling, was issued a violation letter for *advertising without a license* for plumbing. Carlson was advertising his services on a local grocery store bulletin board for painting, yard work, cleaning, swamp coolers, fencing and decks and plumbing. Grocery store bulletin boards are frequently used by unlicensed contractors to advertise their services.

James T. Suttor, dba East Valley Home Services, was issued criminal citation for *contracting without a license*. Suttor had submitted a bid for electrical work. He was advertising his services on a local grocery store bulletin board for electrical, plumbing, carpentry, tile, drywall, fences, roofs, painting and windows.

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Ronnie G. McKnight, dba Handyman Services, was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*. McKnight had submitted a bid for painting. He was advertising his services on a local grocery store bulletin board for plumbing, carpentry, finish carpentry, tile, vinyl flooring, drywall patching, painting and laminate flooring.

Ubaldo Saldana-Rios, aka Chavo and dba We Do It All, was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*. Saldana-Rios had submitted a bid for paver work. He was advertising his services on a local grocery store bulletin board for landscaping, yard clean-up, fences, decks, block walls, pavers, driveways, weeding, sprinkler systems, painting, flooring and plumbing.

Charges were filed with the Clark County District Attorney's Office on **Juan Carlos Sanchez-Rivas** for submitting a bid to do painting and unlawful advertising.

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: <u>www.nscb.state.nv.us</u> by clicking on the "Contractor License Search & Disciplinary Actions Search" icon.

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