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### **Charges Filed Against Contractor For Alleged Unlicensed Activity**

Nevada State Contractors Board investigators recently conducted a sting operation in the northeast area of Las Vegas for unlicensed contracting activity. Charges were filed with the Clark County District Attorney's Office against **Joseph C. Hayes** for *unlawful advertising* and *contracting without a license*, his second offense.

Hayes had submitted a bid of \$1,500 for interior painting. He was advertising his services in a local newspaper. Unlicensed contractors frequently advertise in local publications and on Craig's List.

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](http://www.nscb.state.nv.us) by clicking on the "**Contractor License Search & Disciplinary Actions Search**" icon.

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