



NSCB News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 29, 2013

CONTACT: Jennifer Turner
Public Information Officer
(702) 486-1139

Scott Smith
Public Information Specialist
(702) 486-1165

'TOP 10 MOST WANTED' UNLICENSED CONTRACTOR ARRESTED IN CALIFORNIA

HENDERSON, Nev. – A longtime member of the Nevada State Contractors Board's Most Wanted list has been arrested in California. The California Department of Consumer Affairs' Division of Investigation took Steve Charles Yon into custody at a relative's house in Orangevale, near Sacramento, on March 25.

Yon is wanted on a warrant issued by the Justice Court of Incline in September 2009. NSCB added him to the Most Wanted list in January 2010 after his arrest on a felony charge for diversion of funds. Yon failed to provide any materials or labor after obtaining a \$9,245 payment for a fencing job in the Reno area.

Yon was a licensed fencing contractor in Nevada and California, working under the business name Alpine Fence.

An NSCB investigator contacted the California State License Board last fall with information that the relative lives in the Sacramento area. An investigator from CSLB's Statewide Investigative Fraud Team conducted surveillance and identified Yon at the relative's house, where he was arrested. Yon will be extradited to Nevada. 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.nv.gov and click "Ten Most Wanted" on the quick-link menu to review suspect profiles. The website includes contact numbers to provide information about the individuals profiled.

Red flag warnings of unscrupulous contractors:

- Unable to provide a contractor's license number/business card/contact information;
- Contractor has "extra" materials from a previous job and solicits work because they noticed issues with the home;
- Contractor asks to perform a free inspection, followed by a laundry list of repairs that need to be made;

(more)

- Contractor uses high-pressure sales and does not allow the homeowner time to conduct research or get other bids;
- Contractor does not want to put the agreement in writing; and
- Contractor demands cash payment.

Homeowners should report all suspicious activity or unlicensed contracting activity to **NSCB's Unlicensed Contractor Hotline: (702) 486-1160 or (775) 850-7838.**

Tips for hiring contractors:

1. Only hire licensed contractors.
2. Check the contractor's license number by utilizing our Online Contractor Search at www.nscb.nv.gov
3. Get three references and review past work.
4. Get at least three bids.
5. Get a written contract and do not sign anything until you completely understand the terms.
6. For pool contracts, pay 10% down or \$1,000 - whichever is less, if a deposit is required.
7. Don't let payments get ahead of the work. Keep a record of all payments.
8. Don't make a final payment until you are satisfied with the job.
9. Don't pay cash.
10. Keep a job file of all papers relating to your project.

Additional information for consumers is available on NSCB's website at www.nscb.nv.gov

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MEDIA NOTE: The attached .jpg of Steven Yon is for media use only.