

IT'S THE LAW...

Subsections 489.127(1) and 489.132(1), Florida Statutes, prohibit unlicensed construction contracting.

IT IS A CIVIL VIOLATION TO HIRE AN UNLICENSED CONTRACTOR AND CAN RESULT IN A FINE UP TO \$5,000.

GET THE JOB DONE
RIGHT

HIRE LOCALLY
LICENSED OR STATE
LICENSED CONTRACTORS

To report unlicensed
contractors please contact
the Hernando County
Building Division at
352-754-4050

or

Download the DBPR Mobile
app on your smart phone or
tablet

Hernando County Building Division

789 Providence Blvd
Brooksville, FL 34601

Phone: 352-754-4050
Fax: 352-754-4416
Website: www.HernandCcounty.us/bldg

*Protecting
Yourself from
Unlicensed
Contractors*



**Hernando County
Building Division**



(352)754-4050
www.hernandocounty.us/bldg/

DO

- ✓ ASK TO SEE THEIR CURRENT CONTRACTORS LICENSE, LIABILITY INSURANCE AND WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE.
- ✓ CALL THE BUILDING DIVISION TO VERIFY THAT THEIR LICENSE IS CURRENT AND ALSO ASK IF THEY HAVE ANY COMPLAINTS. VERIFY THAT THEY CAN PERFORM THE TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION THAT YOU NEED THEM TO DO.
- ✓ IF THE LICENSE WAS ISSUED BY THE STATE OF FLORIDA VERIFY THE CURRENT STATUS AT:
www.MyFloridaLicense.com
- ✓ GET AT LEAST 3 ESTIMATES FROM PROPERLY CERTIFIED/LICENSED CONTRACTORS AND BE AWARE THAT THE CHEAPEST MAY NOT ALWAYS BE THE BEST.
- ✓ READ AND UNDERSTAND ANY CONTRACT BEFORE YOU SIGN IT. CONSIDER CONTACTING YOUR INSURANCE AGENT, TO VERIFY THAT THE REPAIRS ARE COVERED BY YOUR POLICY.
- ✓ BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE FLORIDA CONSTRUCTION LIEN LAW.

WARNING SIGNS

- 🔨 THE INDIVIDUAL PREFERS TO WORK AFTER HOURS OR ON WEEKENDS.
- 🔨 THE INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS UP FRONT PAYMENT IN FULL.
- 🔨 THE INDIVIDUAL OFFERS VERBAL CONTRACT ONLY.
- 🔨 A LARGE DOWN PAYMENT IS REQUESTED BEFORE THE WORK BEGINS.
- 🔨 THE PERSON INDICATES THAT THEY ARE LICENSED AND INSURED BUT DOES NOT ALLOW YOU TO REVIEW THE CURRENT CONTRACTORS LICENSE, LIABILITY AND WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE.
- 🔨 THE VEHICLE HAS NO COMPANY NAME OR LICENSE NUMBER DISPLAYED.
- 🔨 NEWSPAPER/FLYER ADS AND/OR BUSINESS CARD HAS NO CONTRACTOR LICENSE NUMBER.
- 🔨 WRITTEN ESTIMATE OR CONTRACT HAS THE COMPANY NAME AND/OR ADDRESS HAND WRITTEN .
- 🔨 THEY INDICATE THEY WERE WORKING DOWN THE STREET OR IN YOUR AREA AND HAVE SOME PRODUCT LEFT OVER AND CAN DO YOUR PROJECT FOR A MUCH LOWER PRICE.

DO NOT

- ⊘ DO NOT PAY CASH
- ⊘ DO NOT ISSUE CHECKS IN THE INDIVIDUALS NAME
- ⊘ DO NOT ACCEPT A BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT (OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE) AS A CONTRACTORS LICENSE.
- ⊘ DO NOT PAY THE ENTIRE INVOICE UP FRONT.
- ⊘ BE VERY WARY OF INDIVIDUALS THAT APPROACH YOU OR COME TO YOUR DOOR LOOKING FOR WORK.
- ⊘ DO NOT ACCEPT A VERBAL CONTRACT.
- ⊘ DO NOT PULL AN OWNER/BUILDER PERMIT EVEN IF THE INDIVIDUAL(S) TELLS YOU TO DO SO BECAUSE IT WILL BE CHEAPER FOR YOU.
- ⊘ DO NOT SIGN THE COMPLETION CERTIFICATE UNTIL ALL WORK IS FINISHED TO YOUR SATISFACTION.
- ⊘ DO NOT SIGN A CONTRACT UNTIL THE CONTRACTOR FURNISHES REFERENCES AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR PEOPLE THAT HE HAS WORKED FOR.
- ⊘ DO NOT ACCEPT A BID, ESTIMATE OR CONTRACT WITH A POST OFFICE BOX ADDRESS INSTEAD OF A STREET ADDRESS.