



Established 1941

*Committed to Promoting Integrity and Professionalism in the Construction Industry*

Jim Gibbons, Governor

www.nscb.state.nv.us

April - June 2009

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### How To Contact The Board:

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Las Vegas

**Art Nadler** - Public Information Officer

## Nevada State Fire Marshal Division Stresses Licensing Requirements

**By: Lieutenant Mike Dzyak, CFEI**

The Department of Public Safety's State Fire Marshal Division serves many functions. One of which is near and dear to me is the regulatory enforcement of the fire protection industry in the state of Nevada. As the



**Mike Dzyak**

Investigation/Enforcement Bureau Chief, I am responsible for ensuring that violations of the Nevada Revised Statutes and Administrative Codes, with regards to everything from fire/ arson to the cleaning of Type I exhaust hoods and ducts, are thoroughly investigated and enforced. State Fire Marshal James M. Wright has taken to heart a message from the indus-

try leaders of the need and desire to "clean up" the fire protection industry.

The fire protection industry including, but not limited to, fire sprinklers, fire alarms, fire extinguishers and Type I exhaust cleaning are among those required to obtain licensing and certification from the State Fire Marshal to conduct business in Nevada. Each "company" wanting to engage in the above mentioned activities must first become a "licensed" company through the State Fire Marshal's licensing program. Employees must become registrants for the particular areas in which both the company is licensed for and for which the employees will perform services. What this means is they must both go hand-in-hand. Joe Smith wants to be a portable fire extinguisher service

*(See Nevada State, Page 3)*

## Help From SCORE Available For Contractors

**By Robert M. Cushman, Secretary SCORE**

You may not know it, but every contractor in Nevada has *free* business counseling available. SCORE, the oldest and largest business consultancy in Nevada, offers services to small and large businesses by appointment, over the telephone or online. SCORE is a resource partner of the Small Business Administration (SBA).

SCORE's basic service is *one-on-one confidential counseling*, offered as frequently as necessary. For complex needs, a number of consultants can meet with any number of the company's management team. SCORE also offers low-cost seminars on workforce planning, managing business finances, marketing in diffi-

cult times and obtaining SBA guaranteed loans from various institutions.

During the current recession, SCORE emphasizes the need for contractors to realistically assess their company's future. This



is best done by modifying the business plan, using the revenue figures from the past two quarters, reducing them by 40 percent and projecting out for two years.

This painful exercise should be done honestly. There are software programs available to help management do a business plan quickly, while staying current with jobs. Software is available for \$40,

*(See Help, Page 3)*

# Across The Board

January 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009

## Investigations Division

### Compliance Investigations

<b>Investigations Conducted</b> .....	<b>996</b>
<b>Investigations Closed</b> .....	<b>972</b>
<b>Licenses Revoked</b> .....	<b>70</b>
<b>Fines Assessed</b> .....	<b>\$211,600</b>
<b>Investigative Costs Assessed</b> .....	<b>\$157,534</b>
<b>Recovery Fund Claims Awarded</b> .....	<b>\$42,208</b>

### Criminal Investigations

<b>Investigations Conducted</b> .....	<b>330</b>
<b>Investigations Closed</b> .....	<b>322</b>
<b>Felony Cases Filed</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Criminal Complaints Filed with District Attorney</b> ....	<b>12</b>
<b>Citations Issued</b> .....	<b>62</b>
<b>Convictions</b> .....	<b>31</b>
<b>Restitution Ordered by Court</b> .....	<b>\$87,261</b>
<b>Fines Assessed by Court</b> .....	<b>\$17,675</b>

## Licensing Division

<b>New License Applications Received</b> .....	<b>650</b>
<b>New Licenses Issued</b> .....	<b>507</b>
<b>License Change Applications Received</b> .....	<b>1,435</b>
<b>Licensed Nevada Contractors</b> .....	<b>17,719</b>

*The Contractors' Billboard is published by the Nevada State Contractors Board as a service to licensed contractors to promote a better understanding of Nevada contracting law and to provide information of interest to all construction professionals. This information is believed to be accurate at the time of publication. The Contractors Board and the State of Nevada assume no responsibility for any damage that arises from any action that is based on information found in this publication.*

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Jim Gibbons, Governor

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### Mission Statement

*"The Nevada State Contractors Board is committed to promoting public confidence and trust in the competence and integrity of licensees and to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public."*

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## Help From SCORE Available For Contractors

*(Continued from Page 1)*

plus \$5 shipping, at: [www.scorelv.org](http://www.scorelv.org)

Many contractors may find that their numbers are negative, and this calls for an organized effort at re-thinking the business. All of SCORE's current contractor clients have asked the same question, "How can I get work?" The answer for each is as unique as their skills. But many should review their largest dollar jobs, cross reference with their most profitable jobs (by margin), and see if the results point the way to a niche that will enable them to restructure the manning, marketing and results for the business. Just cutting costs is not always the answer. SCORE can help manage this business review.

Some contractors may need to put their business on hold for awhile. But they must

close down properly, so at a later date when they reopen, their business relationships remain strong. SCORE can assist with this process – and at no cost to the contractor.

The key to business planning is a positive cashflow. However, even with a positive cashflow projection, contractors may not do better than breakeven for a couple of years. But at least they will have survived, until the economy turned around.

Positive cashflow separates the real contractors from guys who lucked out during the last expansion. Contractors who are in business for the longhaul know downturns come with the territory, and they learn how to manage them. If your business has a niche, learn how to exploit it. A specialty can carry your business for decades.

A positive cashflow is crucial because you will get financing, when the economy turns around and expansions are needed. Please use SCORE now and become a contractor that thrives.

**For more information on SCORE, contact the office in Northern Nevada at: (775) 784-4436, or in Southern Nevada at: (702) 388-6104.**

*Robert M. Cushman is an 11-year member of SCORE. He has counseled dozens of Nevada businesses during the last two years. In Massachusetts, he was responsible for large office construction projects.*

## Nevada State Fire Marshal Stresses Licensing Requirements

*(Continued from Page 1)*

technician; he cannot come to the Nevada State Fire Marshal's office and apply for a "Certificate of Registration" (C of R). He must work for a company that is licensed by the State Fire Marshal to service portable fire extinguishers. Now, if Joe goes to "Smitty's Fire Extinguishing Service Company," which is licensed in Nevada to perform this work, and is employed there, he may apply for, test and possibly receive a C of R from the State Fire Marshal. However, under certain circumstances, such as being a convicted felon, Joe may be precluded from getting a C of R, but the method remains the same.

Wise is the general contractor or other individuals with the responsibility to hire subcontractors who ensure they are "licensed" to perform certain work on a project. Checking for a Nevada State Contractors Board license is a great start, but is by no means the end of a thorough

background check. My disclaimer is that if it is found that your fire protection project work was done by an individual who does not possess a C of R, or a company that was not licensed by the State Fire Marshal, YOU MAY BE LIABLE. Let's throw out an example;

Bob is the General Contractor for a strip mall project that will require fire sprinklers to be installed. Bob contracts "Sammy's plumbing" to install the underground plumbing going into the fire-suppression system. Bob is diligent and checks that Sammy's Plumbing has a State Contractors license and gets the project done. The pipes are installed right up to the fire sprinkler riser and covered with dirt and concrete. The inspector shows up to sign-off the underground and finds out that the employee for Sammy's doesn't have a C of R card, and the company hired to do the work is not licensed by the State Fire Marshal. The sprinkler system will not

only fail the inspection, but the entire system may need to be excavated, AND a licensed and certified company will need to at best, certify the work, at worst, tear it out and rebuild it.

Untold thousands of dollars later you can clearly see the wisdom in ensuring that subcontractors have ALL the required licenses and certifications prior to allowing them to begin work.

Add to this the misdemeanor citations likely to be handed out to the responsible parties here and that research done on the front end was time well spent.

*For questions regarding the SFM Licensing and Registration requirements, contact us at: (775) 684-7500, or go to our website at: [www.fire.state.nv.us](http://www.fire.state.nv.us)*



## Company Profile

# Optimism Prevails At Pahor Mechanical Contractors, Inc.

Even in this challenging economy, Pahor Mechanical Contractors, Inc., (license numbers 0052B, 46508 and 70239) hasn't lost grip of its core goals and values.

"We are going to continue to do business the way we've been doing it since 1938, and that is really taking good jobs and doing good work....," President Steven Wilson says.

Wilson advises contractors to follow the basics of contracting by monitoring and managing their cash flow and taking on jobs that have the ability to pay.

"All of the (economic) indicators that you see make you concerned that it's going to be like this for awhile. I'm much more optimistic than that. I think that we're going to see a change within the next six months or so where it's going to get better," Wilson says. If you read about and focus on difficulties and troubles others are facing in this tough economy, he believes you will end up making wrong business decisions.

Wilson is hopeful there will be many opportunities for businesses to expand in this type of economy, if they are properly positioned. "You've got to be more prepared to make an investment in the business for the long-haul," he says.

Contractors should find their core specialty and concentrate on that.

"A lot of times, when you get outside your core expertise, you're going into a new market that you don't really know too well, and the chances of failure are much higher, and so while it may seem like an opportunity to chase, it may be just a mirage that is not really there," Wilson adds. Also, a contractor cannot work outside the scope of his or her license.

Emil Pahor founded Pahor Mechanical



**Steven Wilson, Pahor President**

Contractors, Inc., in 1938. He ran the business until about 1980 and sold it to his son, Bob Pahor. In 2000, Bob Pahor sold the business to MMC Corp., based in Kansas City, MO. In 2004, Wilson became president of the company. The company is now a wholly owned subsidiary of MMC Corp., which is 100 percent owned by employees of the company.

Pahor Mechanical Contractors, Inc., provides mechanical systems that incorporate plumbing, heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, along with HVAC piping systems. The company also specializes in manufacturing custom ductwork, piping and plumbing assemblies, which are then installed in various facilities.

The company works on projects that include airports, hospitals, schools, high-rise condominiums, medical facilities, prisons and large commercial institutions.

One of the reasons Pahor is so successful is due to mutual respect shared between management and employees.

"We have really a philosophy here at Pahor Mechanical that I treat our

employees like I would treat our best customer, and expect that they do the same....," he says.

At Pahor Mechanical Contractors, Inc., business is done with integrity. "Integrity is a big word, but we really contract with integrity, and that means we do what we say we're going to do. We don't run from problems if we cause them. We'll never run from a job, and we're always going to finish it," Wilson says.

Wilson recommends that contractors use experts within their industry to assist in solving problems encountered on the job. These experts could be design consultants, architects or suppliers. Contractors shouldn't think they have to do it on their own, he explains.

"If you maintain healthy relationships with some of your competitors, you may be able to draw on some of their experience at times and to (have them) help out with a problem," he says.

With respect to the construction industry as a whole, Wilson is convinced computer technologies will be used more in the future. Currently, his company uses computer technologies to model buildings, such as Building Information Modeling (BIM). BIM is a technology CAD designers use to do a 3D representation of what the building will look like and where pipes and ductwork will be installed.

This technology allows contractors to discover conflicts they may encounter, or changes that may need to be made to accommodate the architect's design. Contractors who keep up with this technology will most likely thrive in this industry, Wilson says.





## Here's What's Happening at the Board

### Qualified Employees: What You Should Know

Nevada law requires that a licensee show a degree of experience, financial responsibility and general knowledge of the building, safety, health and lien laws of the state and the administrative principles of the contracting business.

An applicant may qualify in regard to experience and knowledge on his/her own; or by a "qualified employee."

A qualified employee makes technical and administrative decisions and is in charge of hiring, directing employees or recommending such action on behalf of his/her employer's business. In addition, a qualified employee must be devoted solely to his/her employer's business and not take other employment which would conflict with duties.

A qualified employee is required to substantiate experience for the full scope of the classification held by the licensee. A separate qualified employee for individual sub-classifications within the classification is not allowed.

If you need further clarification or have questions, please contact the Board's Licensing Department in Southern Nevada at: (702) 486-1100, or in Northern Nevada at: (775) 688-1141.

### Board Makes Filling Out Licensing Forms Easier

The Nevada State Contractors Board has recently begun to upgrade its licensing forms on the Board's website. The new forms allow the user to input their information onto a PDF form. Additionally, these forms can be saved as local copies, by the user, and will retain all the data that has been entered into them. The form is then simply printed and delivered to the Board.

These easy-to-use forms will allow the contractor to review previously sub-

mitted information and easily update their forms with new data for re-submission in the future.

While these forms are saved in a PDF format and "portable," contractors are *still required* to submit printed applications to the Board.

*Please note that you will need to download a free version of Adobe Reader Version 8 or greater from: [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) to utilize these forms.*

### Criminal Investigators Taking It To The Streets

The Board's criminal investigation divisions of the Northern and Southern Nevada offices continue to investigate all information received through the **Unlicensed Contractor Hotline: (775) 850-7838, Reno, and (702) 486-1160, Las Vegas**, in an expedient manner for both the larger and smaller residential areas.

The Board's recent decision to use the administrative citation (previously issued mainly against licensed contractors) for unlicensed activity has proven to be very effective.

Since Jan. 1, 2009, criminal investigators in Northern and Southern Nevada conducted 44 stings resulting in the issuance of 51 criminal and administrative citations.

In addition to criminal investigations, investigators investigate complaints against licensed contractors and do background checks when warranted.

Violations committed by licensed contractors, such as out-of-scope

license violations and failure to display a license number or company name on vehicles, are also vigorously investigated.

In May 2007, *NRS 624.031(5)* was signed into law, which allows individuals to do work under \$1,000 without a license (unless the work requires a building permit or involves work that requires an electrical, plumbing, air conditioning and heating or refrigeration contract.)

To ensure individuals follow these guidelines, Board criminal investigators conduct proactive enforcement through daily on-view patrol, sting operations and when time permits, attending home shows.

Investigators also conduct seminars for senior citizen groups, homeowner associations and other groups upon request.



## Here's What's Happening at the Board

(Continued from Page 5)

### Board Launches "Unlicensed Contractor Awareness Campaign"

Nevada contractors -- are you tired of unlicensed contractors taking away your business? If the answer is "yes," then see how the Nevada State Contractors Board can help you fight this problem.

The NSCB has developed a new "Unlicensed Contractor Awareness Campaign" that will empower licensed contractors throughout the state to combat unlicensed contractors.

The campaign revolves around licensed contractors displaying and distributing NSCB brochures, a poster and handouts in their businesses. By educating homeowners about hiring licensed contractors, along with ways they can protect themselves from unlicensed contractors, you may also help reduce crimes committed by unlicensed contractors.

If every licensed contractor displays and distributes our brochures in their businesses, more people will be aware

that all contractors need to be licensed and qualified to work in their respective trades.

As part of the campaign, all licensed contractors may request a free informational packet with samples of brochures, an Unlicensed Contractor Hotline card with contact telephone numbers for reporting unlicensed activity, handouts and a laminate "Unlicensed Contractor Awareness" poster, which may be displayed in their businesses.

In the packet, contractors will also be provided with instructions on down-



loading other important NSCB online brochures. Contractors will be able to request other informational materials, free of charge, that may not be available online.

By partnering with the NSCB, all of us can build awareness throughout the state of dangers in hiring unlicensed contractors.

To request your free informational packet, please send your name, company's name, license number, address and phone number via e-mail to:

**nscb\_news@lvcoxmail.com**

**Attention: Ranya Botros**

### Residential Recovery Fund Awards Over \$5 Million

The Residential Recovery Fund was enacted by the Legislature in 1999 for owners of single-family residences, who contracted directly with a residential contractor and sustained damages due to actions of the contractor.

More than 850 claims have been received and over \$5 million awarded to injured homeowners. Owners of townhomes, duplexes, condominiums, rental properties and speculative homes are not eligible for awards. Owners must be "natural persons" and occupy the single-family residence. The Board conducts

Residential Recovery Fund Committee meetings every 60 days.

Homeowners may file claims for damages up to \$35,000. However, the average claim paid is approximately \$8,500.

Most claims are received against small independent residential contractors who are experiencing difficult economic times and fail to maintain their financial ability to continue as a licensed contractor and subsequently have their licenses suspended or revoked.

All residential contractors are required

to provide homeowners with a written notice of their rights under the Residential Recovery Fund, or are subject to a fine of \$100 for each incident of failing to provide notice to the homeowner.

Contractors who have claims awarded against their licenses are subject to collection actions and must repay the Recovery Fund for all valid claims before they can be licensed again in the State of Nevada.



## Welder Qualification Record Update

**By Mark J. Hayes**  
**Building Inspection Specialist**  
**Clark County Building Department**

The American Welding Society Structural Welding Code-Steel (AWS D1.1) addresses a welder's and welding operator's qualification record "Period of Effectiveness." **Section 4, Paragraph 4.1.3 of the AWS D1.1-08 Welding Code** states that a Welding Qualification Record (WQR) shall be considered as remaining in effect indefinitely unless (1) the welder has not engaged in a given welding process, that the welder is qualified in, for a period exceeding six (6) months, or (2) there is a reason to question the welder's ability.

Previously, it was acceptable to have the welding inspector on the project sign and/or stamp the back of the WQR to verify that a welder was without a lapse of greater than 6 months for a qualified welding process. The problem with this reporting method is that accountability is lacking for this type of WQR update. In many cases, the signatures are illegible due to the age of the WQR, poor copy quality, or damaged WQR originals. With all the technical advances made in the last 10 years, it is not a difficult task to create a WQR that would indicate that this requirement has been met.

A WQR is intended to serve as an official document to identify the welder's ability to produce welds meeting a prescribed standard. A WQR, like any other official document, must identify who is verifying and attesting to the welder's ability. As defined by Webster's II Dictionary, a Record is "an account officially written and kept as evidence or testimony." It is for this reason that some accountability is needed for attesting to a welder's continued service, without a lapse greater than 6 months, for a given welding process.

The **Clark County Department of**



**Development Services-Building Division (CCDDS-BD)** requires the welder to provide documentation addressing the Period of Effectiveness requirements. This documentation shall show that the welder has not had a lapse in welding, greater than six months for the welding process qualified. If it is determined that a time period of greater than six (6) months has lapsed, the welder shall be re-tested in accordance with AWS D1.1 Section 4 Paragraph 4.32.

A welder's WQR period of effectiveness requirement, for welders performing field welding, shall be documented by one of the following CCDDS-BD approved reporting methods:

A welder who's Welder Qualification Record (WQR) period of effectiveness requirement has not been documented, or can't be verified, shall re-test (**Reference AWS D1.1 Section 4.32**) at a testing agency, and a new WQR shall be issued, upon an acceptable re-test. The testing agency shall issue a new WQR that shall be stamped and signed by the testing agency's American Welding Society Certified Welding Inspector (AWS/CWI).

A welder who is employed by a contracting company shall have his/her original WQR updated by the welder's current employer. The employer shall attest to the entire period of time covered, commencing from the original WQR date to the

present date. The WQR update letter shall be on the company letterhead and shall be signed by a company official. All of the attachments requested on the sample update letter shall be provided.

A union welder who has obtained their WQR from a CCDDS-BD approved testing agency or by an out-of-state testing agency shall have his/her WQR updated by the same testing agency. The testing agency shall attest to the entire period of time covered commencing from the original WQR date to the present date. The WQR update letter (Sample Copy Attached) shall be on the testing agency's letterhead and shall be signed and stamped by the testing agencies AWS/CWI. All of the attachments requested on the sample update letter shall be provided.

A welder who is a union member of Ironworkers Local 433 or a brother of the International Union of Ironworkers shall utilize the ironworkers local training center, located at: 2485 Marco Street, Las Vegas, NV for his/her WQR updates and re-testing. Out-of-town union welders shall report to the Ironworkers Local 433 training center to verify all required WQR documentation is in order, prior to performing any welding. Welders holding a WQR from the local training center, or an affiliate training center recognized by Ironworkers Local 433, shall be updated or re-tested by the ironworker's local training center. The ironworker's local training center employs Rick Adams and Scott Vick, both of whom are AWS/CWI accredited. The original WQR shall be accompanied by his/her "Continuity Log Book" (Blue Book) not to be confused with the "National Ironworker Continuity Log Book" (Tan or Light Grey Book). The Blue Book contains the written update information stamped and signed by one of the ironworker's local training center CWI's,

**(See Welder, Page 8)**





## Welder Qualification Record Update

(Continued from Page 7)

verifying the welders "Period of Effectiveness." The ironworker's local training center will not update a WQR that was issued by a testing agency or an affiliate ironworker training center not recognized by Ironworkers Local 433.

A welder who is a self-employed individual shall use the WQR update letter (Sample Copy Attached) and attest to the entire period of time covered commencing from the original WQR date to the present date. The letter shall be on his/her company letterhead and signed by the individual

welder. All of the attachments requested on the sample update letter shall be answered. Self-employed individuals shall also include a copy of their current State Contractors Board wallet card.

CCDDS-BD approved third party inspection/testing agencies, providing special inspections in accordance with a CCDDS-BD Quality Assurance Agreement (QAA), shall maintain in alphabetical order legible copies of the WQR Card (Front & Back Sides), WQR update letter(s) or a copy of the union ironworkers "Blue Book Continuity Log" in the agency's project file. The agency

shall complete the CCDDS-BD WQR Verification form (Copy Attached) for all welders performing welding on the project and shall include a copy of this form in the agency's final QAA report in accordance with CCDDS-BD TG-50.

*For more information, contact Mark J. Hayes at: (702) 455-8089.*

## Clark County Opens Customer Routing System

**By Rick Wilburg, C.B.O.,  
Assistant Plans Examination Manager  
Clark County Development Services**

As part of Developments Services' ongoing efforts to improve the overall functionality and usability of our Permit Application Center, we instituted the use of a customized customer routing system, called Q-Matic, on March 31, 2009.

Q-Matic uses ticketing kiosks and overhead display monitors to point customers to the proper permitting counter within the Permit Center. Customers no longer need to sign in at multiple stations, when permit visits require stops at Permit Setup, Zoning, Plans Examination, Engineering and/or Permit Issue. With one ticket, customers are transferred seamlessly from one counter to another.

The permitting process begins at any of three kiosks located at different areas within the Permit Center. Using touch screens, the customer chooses one of three options that detail the reason for the visit: commercial construction, residential construction or general permit questions. The next window displays additional selections to fur-



**One of three Q-Matic ticketing kiosks in the Permit Center**

ther pinpoint the customer's needs.

For instance, tenant improvements, walls and signs are among the additional selections. After this secondary selection is made, a numbered ticket is dispensed. The customer then simply chooses a seat in one of two waiting areas and watches for his/her number to be displayed on any of four large monitors disbursed through-

out the Permit Center. Q-Matic will send the customer to the appropriate counter based upon the selections the customer made at the ticketing kiosk.

Thus far, responses from both customers and staff who have utilized Q-Matic have been excellent. Please feel free to drop by the Permit Center to try out Q-Matic.

### **Architecture Board Advises On Copyrights**

**At the March 2009 Nevada State Board of Architecture, Interior Design and Residential Design meeting, board members reaffirmed that a registrant's plans are protected under federal copyright laws. Building owners and other members of the public must have the design professional's permission to get copies of drawings or plans.**





## Master, Journeyman's Electrician Card Regulations Change

By Alan M. Petrillo  
HVACR Today Las Vegas

The Clark County Department of Development Services' Building Division is stepping up its enforcement of the Master and Journeyman's Electrician card program that it administers.

Dennis Hunt, building inspector specialist and electrical trainer, said the division "has increased our enforcement of the program and will be checking cards more aggressively in the future. A lot of people will be scrambling to get cards who didn't have them before."

Hunt pointed out that the regulations always required the person in charge on a job to have a journeyman's card.

"When we go on an inspection, we require that person in charge to walk the inspection with us, and we only had been asking to see the card on a random basis or after finding a problem," Hunt said. "As of July 2009, we'll require that the badge be prominently displayed on the person in charge of the job."

If the person in charge doesn't have a journeyman's card, the inspector will not perform the inspection, Hunt said, meaning the inspection will have to be rescheduled, and someone holding a journeyman's card will have to be present for the rescheduled inspection.

"We don't require that everyone on the job have a journeyman's card," Hunt pointed out, "only the person in charge of the job."

Hunt said his division recommends anyone working on their own to get a card. "If a person is out by themselves on a service call, they probably will want to have a card so they won't get into any trouble," he said. "Some day it may come to the fact that we'll check all cards on a job. Once we get to the point of having the lead person's card prominently displayed, we could make the change to everyone on the job,

but that would require a change to our administrative procedures, and we'd have to give everyone a length of time to get their cards."

Hunt added that when the county amended its procedures in 2005, all other jurisdictions in Southern Nevada agreed to enforce the Clark County card requirements. They include the cities of Las Vegas, Henderson, North Las Vegas, Mesquite, Pahrump and Boulder City. The Clark County division recently changed its testing company for issuing cards, Hunt noted.

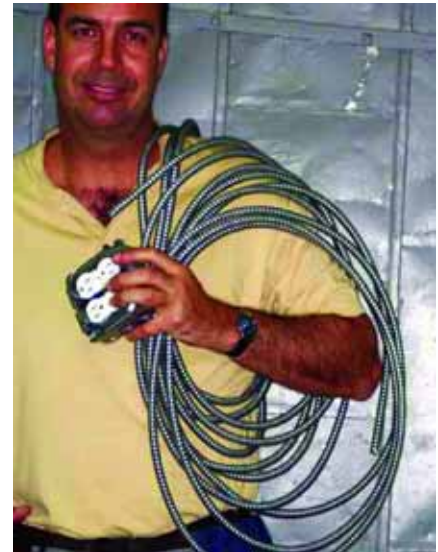
"We now go through the International Code Council (ICC), which also does certification of inspectors," he said. "We worked with ICC to determine what the test would cover in terms of code requirements, local amendments general trade practices on the job, how to work on the job, lockout and tag-out procedures, rope tying for load pickups, crane hand signals and other such elements."

Hunt said the test is a computerized open-book test with a fee of \$100. The card has to be renewed every three years, and in order to be renewed, the individual has to have amassed continuing education units during that period — 1.5 units for a journeyman and 3.0 units for a master.

Hunt pointed out that 0.8 of those continuing education units has to be a class on analysis of the code changes in order to keep the individual updated with the present code.

"We accept CEUs from the International Association of Electrical Inspectors, the International Code Council, the National Fire Protection Association, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Associated Builders and Contractors and others," he said. "Generally these groups require attendance at a seminar or class for the CEU."

Hunt said the division does not require



any specific length of service in the industry in order to get a card.

"If a person can pass the test, they can get a card," he said. "The employer generally looks into a person's work experience. Some apprentices even take the test and get the card before they become journeymen, so they are prepared when the time comes."

Hunt added, "If a person has been through a program, like an apprenticeship program, they've learned the code book and should be able to take the test without any problem. For people in the trade a long time who haven't looked at a code book for awhile or didn't keep up with code changes, they might have to do more study time."

In addition, he said, some organizations provide classes to prepare for the test, which is always an option.

Besides journeyman and master electrician, which deal with commercial work, other categories include journeyman residential, journeyman sign electrician and a new category of technician that deals with low voltage systems. There is no test yet for the latter category.

*Reprinted from HVACR Today Las Vegas.*



## Board Disciplinary Actions: March 1 - April 30, 2009

**Code:**

IC = Investigative Costs

F = Fine

R = Restitution

Admin. F = Administrative Fine

*Please refer to the NSCB website  
for a list of violations*

Respondent	License	Disposition
Bright Development, dba Bright Homes	42564	\$5,700 R
Ceiling Concepts	28444	\$1,000 F; IC; R; Revoked
Daniel William McGlynn, dba Dan McGlynn Construction	52592	\$4,600 F; IC; R; Revoked
Desert Waters, LLC.	66413	\$1,500 F; IC; R; Revoked
DLM Construction, Inc.	34562; 70070	\$500 F; Licenses Surrendered
Dow Industries	27752; 42410	Suspended
Francis Frank Ford	Unlicensed	Admin. F
Innovative Concrete, LLC.	58954	\$2,250 F; IC; R; Revoked
J E Martensen Landscape Construction Co. and Perfect Pavers, LLC.	59235; 68063	Admin. F; License 59235 Suspended
J.B. Electric, Inc.	55338	\$9,000 F; IC; R; Revoked
Max Butterworth Co., LLC. and Max J. Butterworth, dba Max J. Butterworth	70175; 33435; 46000	Licenses Revoked
Nevaz Construction Co., Inc. and Nevaz Construction Co., Inc., dba Millenium Concrete	63218; 70329	\$1,500 F; IC; R; Licenses Revoked
P.C.H. Mechanical, Inc., dba S.W.G. Mechanical Co.	47763	\$2,500 F; IC; R; Revoked
Pacific Sun Landscaping, Inc.	49194	\$1,000 F; IC; R; Revoked
Paul Bohannon, dba Paul Bohannon General Contractor	51654	\$100 F; IC; R; Revoked
Red Vista Builders, LLC.	44819	\$500 F; IC; Probation

Respondent	License	Disposition
Hamlin Development Co., Inc.	47827A	\$3,750 F; IC; R; Revoked
A N T Enterprise, Inc.	67450	\$1,100 F; IC; R; Revoked
Access Automated Door Systems, LLC.	56615	\$2,300 F; IC; R; Revoked
Arley Ralph Poole	Unlicensed	Admin. F
Brookstone Landscape, Inc.	55662	\$1,600 F; IC; Suspended
Camco Pacific Construction Co., Inc.	37507	\$750 F; IC; License Limit Reduced to \$5 million
Capitol Overhead Door, Inc.	22971B	Revoked
David Stefan Bilik, dba Bilik Outdoor Lighting	62196	\$1,250 F; IC; R; Revoked
Eclipse Property, LLC.	57025; 61090	\$2,500 F; IC; R; Licenses Revoked
HIS Custom Flooring, LLC.	67930	\$4,000 F; IC; R; Revoked
Investment Equity Development, LLC. and Investment Equity Builders, LLC.	56304; 47257	\$500 F; IC; Licenses Suspended
Josephs Construction, Inc.	47762A	IC; R; Revoked
Julio Cesar Jumenez, dba J&A Grading	67478	\$1,000 F; IC; R; Revoked
Kenneth Eugene Peters	64163	\$1,500 F; Revoked
Lakemont Homes Nevada, Inc.	42420	\$2,000 F
LeeDavid Emilio Conner, dba Jalumo Construction	66521; 57498	Licenses Revoked

(See Disciplinary Actions, Page 11)



## Board Disciplinary Actions: March 1 - April 30, 2009

**Code:**

**IC = Investigative Costs**

**F = Fine**

**R = Restitution**

**Admin. F = Administrative Fine**

*Please refer to the NSCB website  
for a list of violations*

*(Continued from Page 10)*

Respondent	License	Disposition
Robert Wayne Buss, dba Wayne Buss Construction	59438	\$1,000 F; IC; R; Revoked
Rockwood Development Corp.	50217	\$4,000 F; IC; R; Revoked
Roma Builders, LLC.	64151	\$2,000 F; IC; R; Revoked
Royal Framing Concrete Division, LLP., dba R.F. Concrete	62707	\$1,500 F; IC; R; Revoked
Steve Charles Yon, dba Alpine Fence	23109	\$200 F; IC; R; Revoked
Sun Mountain Construction, Inc.	51064	\$1,000 F; IC; R; Revoked
T.L.V. Construction, LLC.	67548	\$3,000 F; IC; Revoked
TNT Landscape, Inc.	54976A	\$1,500 F; IC; R; Revoked
Visions Concrete Design, LLC.	54796; 54796A	\$3,500 F; IC; R; Licenses Revoked
Woodside Homes of Nevada	28004	\$500 F; IC; Probation
Wright Brothers Tile, Inc.	48773; 48774; 58927	\$3,000 F; IC; Licenses Revoked

Respondent	License	Disposition
Madison Grace Construction Services, LLC.	63486; 70789; 71009; 71010; 71011	\$1,500 F; IC; R; Licenses Revoked
Mario Alberto Gonzalez, dba Mario A. Gonzalez Painting	49445	\$1,500 F; IC; R; Revoked
Metro Development Group, LLC.	67587; 69587	\$2,500 F; IC; R; Licenses Revoked
Pahrump Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	50445A	\$1,000 F; IC; R; Revoked
Ponderosa Equities Construction Corp.	11455	\$6,250 F; IC; R; Revoked
R.B.&G. Construction Co., Inc.	52184	\$1,500 F; IC; R; Revoked
Reg B. Thibault, dba T Beau	41324	\$2,000 F; IC; R; Suspended
ShowerPro, Inc.	56838	\$3,600 F; IC; R; Revoked
Specialty Design Surfaces, LLC.	69446	\$2,500 F; IC; R; Revoked
West Haven Development Group, LLC.	58423	\$500 F; IC; Suspended

## **LP-Gas Board Announces New Regulations**

On Feb. 20, 2009, the LP-Gas Board adopted the 2009 edition of the National Fuel Gas Code (NFPA 54) without exception. This means all new propane installations in Nevada must comply with this edition of the code. In addition, the board also adopted the following NFPA codes:

- NFPA 58 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code (2008 edition)
- NFPA 1192 Standard on Recreational Vehicles (2008 edition)

- NFPA 501A Standard for Fire Safety Criteria for Manufactured Home Installations, Sites and Communities (2005 edition)
- NFPA 160 Standard for the Use of Flame Effects Before an Audience (2006 edition)

Remember when working on LP-Gas systems in Nevada, you must be licensed with the LP-Gas Board and the Nevada State Contractors Board, and your instal-

lations must be in compliance with the codes listed above.

Copies of these codes can be viewed and/or purchased from the NFPA website at: [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)

*To apply for a license with the LP-Gas Board, or for further information, contact the LP-Gas Board office at:  
(775) 687-4890, or visit its website at:  
[www.lpg.nv.gov](http://www.lpg.nv.gov)*





## Criminal Cases Prosecuted: March 1 - April 30, 2009

**Code:**

- IC = Investigative Costs
- F = Fine
- R = Restitution
- PB = Plea Bargain

*\* By Nevada law, the Nevada State Contractors Board has the authority to issue citations and pursue prosecution of individuals for violations ranging from contracting without a license to fraud. The following are the convictions and penalties imposed by the courts.*

Southern Nevada			
Holiday, Leroy Jr.	Conviction	Clark, Pat	Conviction
Murphy, Matt, dba Cutting Edge Cascade	\$500 F; IC	Tuala, Situpe	IC
O'Sullivan, Brian	IC	Sculptured Plaster Design	\$1,800 R; IC
Mendez, Jose	Conviction	Custom Outdoor Fireplaces	IC
Stinson, Ronald	Conviction	Schauberger, Rob	IC
Dangerfield, Armondo	Conviction	Horn, Paul	IC
Calva-Galoso, Vicente	IC		
Northern Nevada			
Cook, Lenny, aka Selimoa Finau, Tom Tuipu	PB; \$5,000 F; \$10,000 R	Griffin, Mitchell Thomas	\$735 F; IC
Ring, William James III	\$125 F; IC	Hayden, Austin Joseph	\$1,000 F; IC
McNinch, Michael Allen	\$177 F	Medina Ray Anthony	\$570 F; IC
Brooke, Stephen Scott	\$347 F; IC	Butolph, Kirk Edward	\$635 F; IC
Dain, William MJ	\$350 F; IC	Morris, Markus Scott	\$177 F
Gray, David Paul	IC		

## **How Contractors Can Survive The Current Economic Crisis**

By Dennis Wengert

No one needs to explain to the construction industry how bad things have become. While other businesses have certainly suffered during this current recession, as a group, residential and commercial contractors have experienced a tremendous reduction in business opportunities and revenues.



**Dennis Wengert**

The definition of "surviving" a down economic cycle depends, in large measure, on who is being asked. However, regardless of where a company's finances stand, embodied within the survival spectrum lies

several managerial and operational strategies that may enable a contractor to make it to the next up-cycle.

### **Develop a Turn-Around Plan**

Many businesses start with the creation of a business plan. Similarly, any business in distress is a sign to the owner there is an immediate need for a *written Turn-Around Plan*. Any company in distress needs a "roadmap" to: a.) *identify* the factors that will enable the company to survive, b.) *prioritize* those factors, and develop a strategy surrounding them, c.) keep a *focus* on those strategies and d.) effectively *execute* the strategies. Without such a plan, there is no other way to effectively address the three areas all companies in distress need to consider: What *can* be done? What *should* be done?

What *will* be done?

### **Turn-Around Strategies**

Rule No. 1 – Ask for help. Too many business owners try to go it alone. Every day of delaying getting help means the company is a day closer to shutting down. The Las Vegas SCORE chapter offers local companies the services of a Crisis Assessment Team. Interested business owners can contact Diane Steenman at: (702) 521-5237, or e-mail her at: [dsteenman@aol.com](mailto:dsteenman@aol.com).

When the obvious strategies to cut costs in the midst of declining revenues have all been employed, yet company finances are still on the critical list, it's time to look at strategies that may not have been previously considered. Such strate-

**(See How Contractors, Page 13)**





## How Contractors Can Survive The Current Economic Crisis

(Continued from Page 12)

gies may include exploring a merger or partnership with competitors, job sharing of employees between two or more companies, totally revamping the products or services the company offers and reassessing the company's targeted customer base.

Developing strategies for increasing revenues is also an essential component of any turn-around plan. For most companies in a shrinking market, this means *increasing* their visibility to both existing customers and prospects. For existing customers, offer thanks, and keep reminding them why they chose to use your company in the first place...and do so with regularity. Send e-coupons for special seasonal

promotions or discounts as a thank you for being a loyal customer. For prospects, first make sure to focus the company's marketing messages on what prospects *need*, and then use low-cost ways to get that message out. *Every* company needs a credible internet presence, and must employ ways for prospects to easily find their way to the company website. Explore other ways to access prospect groups, including getting on local 'preferred vendors' lists, or joining one or more referral groups. Also, there are many internet-based sources that offer free or very low-cost advertising, like Craig's List, or local media outlets' classified sections.

### Refine, Adjust and Persist

Finally, don't "fall in love" with a strategy if it's not showing results in a reasonable amount of time. Make adjustments and refine targeted activities. But...keep trying. The cycle will eventually turn, and the economy will start to improve. One of the best lessons a crisis teaches nearly every business owner is how to manage better...even when times are good. So, even though the 'survival' process may be painful, the journey may well prove to be worthwhile.

*Dennis Wengert is Nevada Deputy District Director for the U.S. Small Business Administration, and a former small business owner.*

## EPA Implements New Lead Exposure Mandates

By Scott Alquist

As many are aware, exposure to lead can create serious issues for workers. This is why the Environmental Protection Agency is implementing new mandates for contractors this year.

The possibility of diminished mental capacity and impotence are only some of the effects that can be experienced. Many may not be aware that, according to historians, there are really no true Romans left in the world due to their exposure to lead. Romans used lead as part of their water systems, as storage casks for wines and other liquids and actually used powdered lead as a sweetening agent for their wine. Due to the harmful physical effects of lead exposure, their culture no longer exists. Today we find lead, not only in certain paints and industries, but also candies and sodas imported from Mexico, as charms on certain footwear and even used in hobbies, such as reloading and fishing. Due to these



mechanisms of transmission, we are now experiencing elevated blood-lead levels in many children.

OSHA identified this many years ago and created specific regulations to protect workers from exposure to lead. While it has taken some time, the U.S. EPA has now finalized new lead exposure and abatement requirements that protect the general public.

According to the newest requirements,

contractors that are involved in renovation, repair or painting (RRP) activities that have the potential to disturb lead and present hazards must attend EPA accredited training and apply for certification from the EPA in order to continue to perform these services. While this is not the only set of regulations looming on the horizon, this is the first that will require compliance. Other requirements will include training for construction, for lead abatement workers, inspectors and risk assessors.

According to the RRP regulations, any activity conducted in pre-1978 residences or any pre-1978 child-occupied facility will require this training and certification. The only way this mandate would not apply would be if an EPA certified lead inspector were to conduct a hazard survey and certify the residence or facility to be lead-free. The implementation timeline is

(See EPA, Page 14)



## EPA Implements New Lead Exposure Mandates

(Continued from Page 13)

as follows:

- **October 22, 2009**, firms can begin to apply to the U.S. EPA for certification to conduct RRP activities and
- **April 22, 2010**, renovations in target (pre-1978) housing and child-occupied facilities must be conducted by certified renovation firms, using renovators with accredited training, and following the work practice requirements of the rule.

The mandated training is a combination of U.S. EPA and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements and will include a total of eight training modules.

- **Lead Paint Concerns** – this module will instruct participants in the health problems related to lead, why lead is a problem that must be dealt with and who is put at

risk if activities are not handled correctly.

- **Regulations** – discusses what U.S. EPA and HUD require of certified firms.
- **Pre-work Activities** – teaches how to determine if lead is present, education of owners and residents of targeted facilities and work planning.
- **Dust Containment** – teaches proper work area set up and containment activities.
- **Appropriate Work Practices** – teaches safe work practices and what activities are not allowed per U.S. EPA and HUD.
- **Cleanup and Checking Your Work** – teaches how to clean up after work is completed and how to verify the area is clean.

- **Recordkeeping** – teaches U.S. EPA and HUD recordkeeping and documentation requirements.

- **Training Non-Certified Workers** – teaches how the certified renovator can train non-certified renovation workers in the required safe practices.

Included in the classroom training is a series of hands-on exercises designed to assist contractors in understanding and implementing these requirements. TMCC's Workforce Development and Continuing Education Division offers Lead Compliance Training starting in June.

For details, go to: [wdce.tmcc.edu](http://wdce.tmcc.edu) and click on classroom courses, then safety/regulatory compliance, or call: (775) 829-9010.

*Scott Alquist is Truckee Meadows Community College's Safety Center manager.*

## Clark County Issues Fabricator Policy Change

Effective immediately, the **Clark County Department of Development Services –Building Division (CCDDS-BD)** will no longer accept the City of Los Angeles Steel Fabrication Certification as a substitute for the CCDDS-BD required Annual Third Party Steel Fabrication Facility Audit. This also applies to fabricators requesting a CCDDS-BD Project Specific Approval.

Steel fabricators holding a current American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) Steel Fabrication Certification and/or an International Accreditation Services (IAS) steel fabricator accreditation will not be affected by this policy change. The CCDDS-BD Annual Renewal and Project Specific approval requirements will remain unchanged.

Steel fabricators that are currently approved by CCDDS-BD that do not have a current AISC Steel Fabrication Certification or an IAS accreditation shall be required to have a CCDDS-BD approved third party auditing agency perform the required annual fabrication facility audit.

The steel fabricator shall complete the CCDDS-BD steel fabricator renewal application, indicating on the application the CCDDS-BD approved third party agency the fabricator wants to perform the required audit and shall submit the application along with the required renewal fees to CCDDS-BD.

The approved auditing agency and the steel fabricator shall schedule a date for the in-plant audit to be performed. The

auditing agency shall contact CCDDS-BD, and request an audit package, and identify the auditor who will be performing the audit. CCDDS-BD will provide an audit package to the approved third party auditing agency, chosen to perform the audit. After the audit has been completed, the approved third party auditing agency shall return the completed audit package to CCDDS-BD for review and disposition.

Approved steel fabricator third-party auditing agencies can be found on the Clark County website: [www.accessclark-county.com](http://www.accessclark-county.com).

*For more information, contact Kenneth Konrad, Building Inspection Specialist, Clark County Building Department, at: (702) 455-2734.*



## Administrative Citations: March 1 - Feb. 28, 2009

*(All Paid Investigative Costs)*

Respondent	License Number	Administrative Fine	Respondent	License Number	Administrative Fine	Respondent	License Number	Administrative Fine
Christopher Commercial LLC	57851	\$1,000.00	Down 2 Earth Landscaping LTD	461, 66458, 664	\$1,000.00	National Construction Rentals Inc.	42547	\$1,000.00
A D Ault Incorporated dba Dynasty Luxury Homes	60669	\$1,000.00	Eagle Graphic Systems Inc.	53645	\$500.00	Natural Illusions, Inc	59540	\$550.00
A-1 Action Plumbing and Rooter, Inc	50591	\$750.00	Eastern Sierra Roofing	71176	\$1,000.00	Nevada Home Care Services Inc	71296	\$500.00
Ability Construction	33860	\$1,000.00	Ence Bros Construction of Nevada LLC	57713	\$1,000.00	Nevada Pools Inc.	06917C	\$1,000.00
Absolute Security Systems Inc.	50763	\$650.00	Energized Electrical Systems Inc.	58755	\$500.00	Nevada Webber Drilling Inc.	25887	\$500.00
Absolutely Air Inc	60030	\$750.00	Exotic Pool Creation	52165	\$500.00	New Vision Landscaping By Gabriel	67374	\$500.00
AC For Less Inc	63310	\$1,000.00	Five Star Painting Inc.	59750	\$1,550.00	P M O Floors	68074	\$1,300.00
Addison Landscaping Inc.	46744A	\$500.00	J Alvarez Masonry	46209	\$1,000.00	Paramount Construction	67687	\$1,000.00
Baker Construction	36671	\$1,000.00	J M R Painting and Drywall	53617	\$500.00	Patchco Inc.	56839	\$250.00
Bennett Brothers Inc	50836	\$800.00	J T Construction	51690	\$500.00	Philip Morgan Co.	37741	\$1,000.00
Bridgeport Construction LLC	63046	\$1,000.00	Java Man Landscape Designs Inc.	59186	\$500.00	Redline Consulting	67413	\$1,500.00
C & G Union LLC	72053	\$1,100.00	L T D Builders Inc.	53140	\$500.00	Reno Renovators (RENO)	58141A	\$500.00
C R Carpets & Flooring Inc.	52916	\$1,250.00	LAPCO	42075	\$1,000.00	Rios Concrete & Custom Curb Inc.	58969A	\$500.00
Cambridge Development Inc	47488	\$500.00	Levelex Inc	63179	\$500.00	Robert Bishop Painting	14455A	\$250.00
Con Struct LLC	48717	\$750.00	MAC Landscaping Inc.	59917	\$500.00	Robert Vincent, LTD	53652	\$500.00
Consolidated Mechanical Contractors	58812	\$500.00	Medco Construction Inc	33770, 33771, 32003, 71494	\$750.00	Rock N Hollywood Electric and Electronic Systems	67910	\$500.00
Cree Concrete LLC	65492, 70055	\$1,250.00	Morton Excavating Inc	51104	\$550.00	Roof Tec	67444	\$400.00
Delta Mechanical Inc.	53330	\$1,000.00				S C McBride General		

## **NCIRC Releases 2009 Blue Book Reference Guide**

The Nevada Construction Industry Relations Committee (NCIRC) recently released the 2009 edition of *The Blue Book: A Reference Guide for the Nevada Construction Industry*.

The last edition was released in 2004.

NCIRC is composed of representatives from all of the state boards and agencies involved in the design and construction industry. Members include the Board of Architecture, Interior Design and Residential Design, the Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, the Board of Landscape Architecture, the Nevada State Contractors Board, the State Fire Marshal, the Public Works Board and the Nevada Organization of

Building Officials. One of the group's primary functions is to publish *The Blue Book*.

*The Blue Book* is a free reference manual developed for building officials, design professionals, contractors and the public.

The booklet is intended to provide readers with a summary and guide to key elements of the laws, regulations and policies governing design and construction in the state of Nevada. It includes information about the role and duties of each design and construction professional, as well as information about standards for building plans.

The last section in the manual covers Frequently Asked Questions.

*The Blue Book* can be downloaded from the Board of Architecture's website:

([http://nsbaidrd.state.nv.us/publications\\_forms.htm](http://nsbaidrd.state.nv.us/publications_forms.htm))

Hardcopies of *The Blue Book* are available at the Nevada State Contractors Board offices at: 2310 Corporate Circle, Suite 200, Henderson, NV 89074, or 9670 Gateway Drive, Suite 100, Reno, NV 89521.



## 2009 Nevada State Contractors Board Meetings

The following 2009 Nevada State Contractors Board meetings will take place at: 2310 Corporate Circle, Suite 200, Henderson, NV 89074 and 9670 Gateway Drive, Suite 100, Reno, NV 89521 beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Thursdays:

- **June 25**
- **July 23**
- **August 27**
- **September 24**
- **October 22**
- **November 19**
- **December 17**

Agendas can be viewed on the website at: [www.nscb.state.nv.us](http://www.nscb.state.nv.us) under "Meeting Agendas & Minutes," three business days before each meeting. All dates are tentative and subject to change, until a meeting agenda has been officially posted.



### Don't Forget To...

- ✓ ***Always make sure your license number and monetary limit is on all contracts or bids. - NAC 624.640(5)***
- ✓ ***Check to ensure that licenses or persons with whom you contract are valid and active. - NAC 624.650***
- ✓ ***Know what you are contracting for, verify terms of the contract and comply with terms of the contract. - NRS 624.3013(1)***
- ✓ ***If it is not in your written contract, it doesn't exist. Make sure all change orders are in writing and signed by all parties. - NRS 624.3013(1)***