



Nevada State Contractors Board

NEWS RELEASE

www.nscb.state.nv.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

NSCB Ten Most Wanted Arrested



Lote Masi Taufu, wanted by the Nevada State Contractors Board for five outstanding felony charges and two misdemeanors for construction activity in the Reno area was recently arrested in Sacramento, Calif., along with four other suspects in a two-day sting operation conducted by the California State Contractors Board

Statewide Investigative Fraud Team and the Elk Grove Police Department. Taufu was arrested for unlicensed concrete work under the company name of All Season Concrete Co. He will be arraigned on the California charges and face extradition to Nevada on the outstanding warrants.

The Washoe County District Attorney's Office and the NSCB worked with CSLB by providing warrant documentation and extradition verification for the arrest. Taufu was also issued an administrative citation in California for Business and Professions Code, Sections(s) for *contracting without a license and illegal advertising*.

The Nevada State Contractors Board warns homeowners to hire only licensed contractors. To assist in prosecuting illegal contracting, the Nevada State Contractors Board has

launched an online “Ten Most Wanted” list of individuals. The individuals listed on the Ten Most Wanted website are those who have outstanding arrest warrants for unlicensed contracting activity. Homeowners may check whether a contractor they are considering hiring is licensed by going to www.nscb.state.nv.us or by contacting the NSCB at (702) 486-1100.

The NSCB urges consumers to follow these simple tips when dealing with a contractor:

- **Hire only licensed contractors. Ask to see the license.**
- **Don’t rush into decisions or hire without checking out potential contractors.**
- **Be especially wary when approached by someone offering home improvements door-to-door.**
- **Verify the contractor’s licensed by checking online at www.nscb.state.nv.us or via automated phone service at (702) 486-1100 (Las Vegas), or (775) 688-1141 (Reno).**
- **Ensure the contractor is properly licensed for the work you want done on your home.**
- **Limit the amount of your down payment or deposit to 10 percent of the total contract.**
- **Don’t pay cash without obtaining signed receipts, and don’t let the payments get ahead of the work.**

###