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**NSCB Investigators Nab 10 Contractors Statewide
For Alleged Unlicensed Activity**

Nevada State Contractors Board investigators from Southern and Northern Nevada recently conducted sting operations in the Summerlin area of Clark County and Reno in which 10 contractors were cited for alleged unlicensed contracting activity.

Those in Southern Nevada who received criminal citations and were ordered to appear in court for allegedly *contracting without a license* were:

Marat Harutyunan, dba American Electrical Services, submitted a *bid for electrical repairs*; **Armando Benitez**, dba J R Landscaping, submitted a *bid for landscaping*; **Luis Valdovinos**, dba Valdovinos Landscaping, *unlawful advertising and submitted a bid for landscaping*; **Judith L. Hiett-Long**, dba Designs by J, *unlawful advertising and submitted a bid to do granite countertops*; **Samuel L. Pellegrino**, *unlawful advertising and submitted a bid for painting*; **John E. Tosi**, *unlawful advertising*; and **Christopher Prince**, dba Vegas Handyman Services, charges to be filed with the Clark County District Attorney's office for *unlawful advertising and submitting a bid to do painting*.

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Those cited in Northern Nevada included: **William Barnes**, dba Backyard Heat, *contracting without a license*; **Natalie Gordon**, dba Natalie Gordon Murals, *submitted a bid to do faux painting*; and **Peter Mancini**, dba Inside and Out, *submitted a bid for electrical contracting*.

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

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