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

SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMEOWNER ALERT!

The Nevada State Contractors Board is warning homeowners in the Summerlin area to beware of an unlicensed contractor soliciting homeowners for \$350 to high-power wash roof tiles and spray them with an unknown sealant, all under the claim of protecting tiles from harmful UV rays and to extend their lifespan.

Roofing industry experts concur that such claims are unsubstantiated and that tiles, which are made of concrete, are sealed when manufactured.

Homeowners should be cautious when approached by door-to-door salesmen soliciting to wash and seal roof tiles. Company representatives are reportedly driving two vehicles with no license plates – a white Chevrolet and blue Ford pick-up.

Homeowners are advised that <u>all</u> Nevada licensed contractors have a <u>5-digit license</u> <u>number</u> issued by the Nevada State Contractors Board. Either call the Contractors Board or go online, and reference this 5-digit number, to make sure a contractor is licensed and in good standing with the Board.

The Nevada State Contractors Board offers these 10 tips to protect yourself:

- 1. Hire only licensed contractors.
- 2. Check the contractor's license number by calling the Nevada State Contractors Board at (702) 486-1100 in Southern Nevada, or (775) 688-1141 in Northern Nevada.
- 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. Pay 10 percent 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.

Contacting 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.

The Contractors Board advises homeowners not to 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. Homeowners who use unlicensed contractors are not eligible for the Residential Recovery Fund, and by law their contracts are null and void.

For more information, go to the NSCB website at: www.nscb.state.nv.us or call (702) 486-1100 in Southern Nevada, or (775) 688-1141 in Northern Nevada.