



Established 1941

Committed to Promoting Integrity and Professionalism in the Construction Industry

### Jim Gibbons, Governor

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### How To Contact The Board

#### Southern Nevada

2310 Corporate Circle, Suite 200 Henderson, NV 89074 Phone: (702) 486-1100 Fax: (702) 486-1190 E-Mail: mfloridia@nscb.state.nv.us

#### Northern Nevada

9670 Gateway Drive, Suite 100 Reno, NV 89521 Phone: (775) 688-1141 Fax: (775) 688-1271 E-Mail: mfloridia@nscb.state.nv.us

#### **Hours of Operation**

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### www.nscb.state.nv.us

## Contractors Find Opportunities In Testing Home Energy Use

By Jacquelyn Smith

You hear the term Whole Home Performance these days and are probably wondering what it's all about. Whole Home Performance is a "systems approach," using state-ofthe-art diagnostic testing, that identifies the root cause of common household problems affecting energy use, comfort and indoor air quality. Business opportunities are available for contractors from all trades (HVAC, General, Insulation, etc.) to participate by taking advantage of training and certification.

Testing a home can be the best way to evaluate a home's "energy mileage." Testing provides homeowners with information on how healthy their home is and what devices are both inside and outside the home that contribute to energy use. Contractors can assist homeowners by performing specialized tests that measure various areas of a home's energy usage. Once the initial assessment is completed, the contractor can develop a customized plan for the homeowner and can immediately begin performing the work

needed.

Contractors can take advantage of specialized services and products available at:

December 2010

www.greennet.com

that will help them grow their business in Whole Home Performance. Through HVAC, RCA and DTS training - which are all components of Whole Home

Performance, - contractors can become part of the energy efficient movement.

Other resources can be found through The Building Performance Institute (BPI). BPI provides training, professional certification, company accreditation and quality

(See Contractors, Page 3)

## **Boulder City Building Permit Questions**

The following frequently asked questions have to do with obtaining building permits from the City of Boulder City.

• Question: Do I need a permit to pour concrete or flatwork on my property? • Answer: Concrete and flatwork does not require a building permit, unless a structure is to be built on top of such concrete or flatwork. • Q: Do I need a permit for a shed?

• A: Yes, unless the shed is less than 120 square feet in floor area. However, setbacks from the property line still have to be observed. Contact the Planning Division at: (702) 293-9282 for additional information on setbacks.

#### • Q: Do I need a soils report to build an

(See Boulder City, Page 3)

# <u>Across The Board</u>

November 1-30, 2010

### **Investigations Division**

### **Compliance Investigations**

Investigations Conducted	189
Investigations Closed	196
Licenses Revoked	13
Fines Assessed	\$27,000
Investigative Costs Assessed	\$26,882
Recovery Fund Claims Awarded	\$95,492

### Criminal Investigations

Investigations Conducted	. 124
Investigations Closed	
Felony Cases Filed	3
Criminal Complaints Filed with District Attorney	12
Citations Issued	20
Convictions	15
Restitution Ordered by Court \$11	,086
Fines Assessed by Court\$7	7,736

### Licensing Division

New License Applications Received	97
New Licenses Issued	90
License Change Applications Received	
Licensed Nevada Contractors	16,289

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

### **Board Members**

Kevin E. Burke, Chairman Thomas "Jim" Alexander Donald L. Drake Nathaniel "Nat" Hodgson III William "Bruce" King Stephen P. Quinn Guy M. Wells

Margi Grein, Executive Officer

### **Mission Statement**

The Nevada State Contractors Board is committed to promote the integrity and professionalism of the construction industry in Nevada.

The Nevada State Contractors Board has the responsibility to promote quality construction by Nevada licensed contractors through a regulatory licensing system designed to protect the health, welfare and safety of the public.

> Website: www.nscb.state.nv.us

Art Nadler, Editor Ranya Botros, Editorial Assistant Phone: (702) 486-1139

## Boulder City ...

(Continued from Page 1)

#### addition?

• A: No, provided the addition is less than 600 square feet, and there are no geotechnical soils hazard concerns noticed when the foundation inspection is being performed.

## • Q: Do I need a permit for a patio cover?

• A: Yes.

• Q: Do I need a permit for a fence?

• A: Yes.

#### • Q: What information do I need to submit to obtain a fence permit?

• A: One will need to submit a site plan showing location, length, height of wall and a property line agreement with the adjacent property owners giving permission to construct such a wall if the wall and/or footing are to be located on the property line. City of Boulder City's standard details may be used for construction. For more information, click here: <u>Fence &</u> <u>Retaining Wall Building Permit Guide</u>

#### • Q: What is exempt from a permit?

• A: Section 105.2 of the Boulder City Administrative Code defines all items exempt from permits. For more information, click here: <u>2009 Administrative</u> <u>Building Code</u>

### • Q: How much does a permit cost?

• A: The permit fees can be found in the Boulder City 2009 Administrative Building Code, Section 109. You may also call our office at: (702) 293-9282 to speak to the Development Services Specialist for a quote on a permit.

# • Q: Is there a checklist of required information to be included on my plans and with my permit submittal?

• A: Yes. Please refer to this <u>checklist of</u>

#### required information

## • Q: Can I speak with an inspector or plans examiner?

• A: Yes. An appointment should be made with the department secretary one day in advance unless there is an emergency. In the event of an emergency, the department secretary can direct your call to an inspector or plans examiner between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Please call our office at: (702) 293-9282 for an appointment.

## • Q: When should I call/e-mail for an inspection?

• A: Inspections must be scheduled a minimum of one day in advance unless an inspection is desired the same day (see below). For example, if you would like an inspection on Tuesday, you must call by 3:30 p.m. on Monday. Since City Hall is closed on Fridays, to schedule a Monday inspection, you must call by 3:30 p.m. the previous Thursday. When requesting an inspection, please call: (702) 293-9327 and leave a message with the following information:

- 1) Address to which the permit was issued.
- 2) Permit number.
- 3) Inspection type.
- 4) Day you would like the inspection.
- 5) Contact name and phone number for the project.

If you prefer, you may e-mail your inspection request with the above information to <u>buildinginspections@bcnv.org</u>. All e-mails must be received by 3:30 p.m. to be put on the log for the next business day. (\***NOTE:** If you e-mail your request, please do not also call and leave a voicemail. You only need to call OR e-mail your request once).

## • Q: Can I schedule an inspection on a Friday, Saturday or Holiday?

• A: No. Due to decreased staffing levels, we no longer schedule inspections on Fridays, Saturdays or holidays. We apologize for the inconvenience.

## • Q: Can I schedule an inspection for the same day?

• A: Yes. If you require a same-day inspection, please be advised that there is a fee. The fee is a minimum of \$85. Payment for the inspection is required at the time the inspection is scheduled, and the inspection must be scheduled prior to 12 p.m. on the regular work day the inspection is needed. Please **ONLY** call: (702) 293-9282 when requesting a **same-day inspection**.

Compiled from the Community Development Department, City of Boulder City. For more information, call: (702) 293-9282.

### Contractors ...

### (Continued from Page 1)

assurance protocols for home performance contractors that can help you build or expand your programs rapidly and cost-effectively. To learn more, go to: http://www.bpi.org/home.aspx.

For more information on the "Whole Home Performance" program, go to: <u>www.greennet.com</u>.

Jacquelyn Smith is the Senior Director of Marketing for Enalasys Corporation of Calexico, CA. The company specializes in energy management business strategies and solutions.

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

### **Statewide Stings Target Unlicensed Activity**

Criminal investigators from the Nevada State Contractors Board recently conducted multiple sting operations in northwest Las Vegas and the Reno/Sparks area. Nine alleged unlicensed contractors were given criminal citations in Southern Nevada and two were cited in Northern Nevada.

Those who received citations in Southern Nevada included:

**Cesar Ernesto Recinos-Lopez, dba Cesar's Handy Work**, recently thought he stumbled onto a gold mine of potential customers, while canvassing a Northwest Las Vegas neighborhood with his business cards in search of drywall jobs. Unfortunately, he didn't have a contractor's license and was given a criminal citation by a NSCB investigator for *contracting without a license* and *advertising without a license* after submitting a \$1,100 drywall bid . Upon receipt of the citation, Recinos-Lopez stated:

"I didn't know anything about this when I got this (business license). No one explained what I could do."

What Recinos-Lopez needed to do was obtain either a C-3 or C-4 contractor's

license.

Rogelio Orozco Rubio, dba Mechanical Services; Michael Brewer, dba LV Xtreme Painters; Guy Mizrahi, dba Mr. Fix; and Phillip Harp, dba Exterior Home Services turned to Craiglist to advertise their contracting services. Unfortunately, none of them were licensed contractors, and they were cited by NSCB investigators at a sting house.

Rubio submitted a \$1,500 bid for the installation of a water heater and drywall. He was cited for *contracting without a license*.

Brewer submitted a \$1,400 bid to paint the exterior of the two-story home. He was cited for *contracting without a license* and *advertising without a license*.

Mizrahi submitted a \$14,000 bid to NSCB investigators to repair the fire-damaged garage that included electrical work, exterior painting and drywall work. He was cited for *contracting without a license* and *advertising without a license*. Upon

(See Statewide Stings, Page 6)

### Volunteer Your Home For Stings

The Nevada State Contractors Board is asking contractors to become involved in helping to protect their neighborhoods from unlicensed contractors by volunteering their homes for one-day use by undercover NSCB investigators for sting operations.

To learn more on how you can help stop illegal unlicensed contractors from targeting your neighborhood, contact:

• Southern Nevada - Kenny Peppley, Supervisor of Criminal Investigations, (702) 486-1100, Ext. 1144.

• Northern Nevada (Carson City, Fallon, Elko and other outlying areas) – Fred Schoenfeldt, Investigations Supervisor, (775) 688-1141, Ext 7884.

### Margi Grein Receives SNHBA Award

Las Vegas home builder Nat Hodgson, President of the Southern Nevada Home Builders Association, recently presented Margi Grein,



Nat Hodgson presents Margi Grein with an award

Executive Officer of the NSCB, with a President's Special Award for Outstanding Service to the Community/Industry at the association's 2011 Installation of Officers and Directors/2010 President's Appreciation Awards Luncheon at the Four Seasons Hotel in Las Vegas.

"As 2010 President, it's my pleasure to be able to present special awards to individuals who have provided special services or opportunities for the home building industry," Hodgson said. "Margi has strived to work with our industry, board members and the public to give a new face to this important agency and make many improvements."

Hodgson said some of Grein's improvements at the NSCB included refining processes, educational programs, the newsletter, Residential Recovery Fund procedures, agency oversight and faster complaint resolution. As part of the NSCB's Strategic Plan, Grein is also implementing one of the Board's goals of reaching out to industry associations.

Founded in 1953 by 12 local home builders and incorporated with the state of Nevada in 1954, the Southern Nevada Home Builders Association ranks as the oldest and largest local trade organization representing the residential construction industry. It has approximately 325 members who work in all facets of the home building industry.



## Board Disciplinary Actions: November 1-30, 2010

The Nevada State Contractors Board adjudicated the following cases from Nov. 1-30, 2010:

*F. Scott Egbert Construction,* license number 31564 (Residential & Small Commercial), based out of Wells, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was ordered to pay investigative costs and provide a current financial statement.

*Verdi Electric Company,* license number 10357A (Electrical Contracting), based out of Verdi, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for misrepresentation; committing a fraudulent or deceitful act; and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$1,250; ordered to pay investigative costs and provide a current financial statement that supports the license limit. The license was revoked.

*Davis & Green Ltd.*, license numbers 62618 and 62621(Residential & Small Commercial and Carpentry), based out of Reno, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for abandonment of a construction project; diversion of funds; failure to include the Residential Recovery Fund information on a contract or proposal; failure to include the monetary license limit and license number on a contract or proposal; failure to include the required disclosures on a contract or proposal; and for the partnership, corporation, firm or association participating in a prohibited act. The licensee was fined \$1,600 and ordered to pay investigative costs. The licenses were cancelled.

*A D S Environmental and Construction Inc., dba Advanced Drywall Systems,* license numbers 52851, 53182, 68280 and 70951 (General Building, Wrecking Buildings, Unclassified, Removal of Asbestos and Is Designed for Lead Abatement & Mold Remediation Only), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to pay money due for materials or services; failure to keep in force a bond or cash deposit; for the partnership, corporation, firm or association participating in a prohibited act; and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$2,000 and ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The licenses were revoked.

*Dave Bell Construction Inc.*, license number 50469 (Residential & Small Commercial), based out of Star, ID, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for substandard workmanship; failure to take appropriate corrective action; failure to include the Residential Recovery Fund information on a contract or proposal; failure to include the monetary license limit and license number on a contract or proposal; failure to include the required disclosures on a contract or proposal; and failure to

establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$2,850 and ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

*A. A. C. A., LLC., dba Mr. Rooter Plumbing,* license number 73696 (Plumbing), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for fraud; willful disregard of the building laws of the State; and failure to include the monetary license limit and license number on a contract or proposal. The licensee was fined \$3,000 and ordered to pay investigative costs.

*The Good Water Company, dba Diamond Water Purification,* license number 53772 (Install Equipment To Treat Water), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for substandard workmanship; failure to take appropriate corrective action; failure to include the Residential Recovery Fund information on a contract or proposal; and willful disregard of the building laws of the State. The license was fined \$3,100 and ordered to pay investigative costs. The license was suspended.

A Shade Better, license number 57520 (Awnings & Louvres), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for substandard workmanship; failure to take appropriate corrective action; failure to include the Residential Recovery Fund information on a contract or proposal; failure to include the monetary license limit and license number on a contract or proposal; and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$1,350 and ordered to pay investigative costs. The license was suspended until a current financial statement with bank verification for all cash accounts is provided that supports the license limit.

*Focus One Construction, Inc., dba Focus One Group,* license number 67832 (Residential & Small Commercial), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to comply with the terms of a construction contract, thereby causing material injury to another; contracting on a suspended or revoked license; and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$2,000 and ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

*Michael Paul Gebbia, dba R A M Group,* license number 72815 (Carpentry), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for acting in the capacity of a contractor beyond the scope of the license; accepting a bid from an unlicensed person; contracting with an unlicensed person; bidding beyond the scope of the license;

(See Disciplinary Actions, Page 6)

## Board Disciplinary Actions: November 1-30, 2010

### (Continued from Page 5)

bidding on a contract with a suspended or revoked license; failure to notify the Board of a change in personnel or address within 30 days of the change; failure to keep in force a bond or cash deposit; and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$4,250 and ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

*Beauty With Pavers, LLC.*, license number 55901 (Masonry), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$500 and ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

*A. D. G., Inc.,* license number 56305 (Finishing Floors), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for acting in the capacity of a contractor beyond the scope of the license; failure to include the Residential Recovery Fund information on a contract or proposal; failure to notify the Board of a change in personnel or address within 30 days of the change; and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$2,100 and ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

*Triple 777 Steel, Inc.,* license number 70682 (Reinforcing Steel), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute

624 for failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$500 and ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked

*S. O. S. Repair, LLC.*, license number 68034 (Refrigeration & Air Conditioning), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$2,500 and ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

\*\*The Business Review Program is one in which a contractor's business practices and regulatory compliance is examined by NSCB investigative staff. The program is a part of NSCB's proactive investigative efforts.

The Nevada State Contractors Board is committed to protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare through licensing and regulation of the construction industry. Under Nevada Revised Statutes, a licensee is subject to disciplinary action by the Board for failure to comply with the requirements of the laws or regulations governing contractors. Violations may result in Board action against the contractor's license. The State Contractors Board has the power to regulate contractors and discipline licensees who violate NRS 624. Disciplinary action may consist of a fine of up to \$10,000 per offense, order corrective action, suspension, revocation or other action.

## Statewide Stings ...

### (Continued from Page 4)

being cited, Mizrahi said he was only gathering information to hand over to a licensed general contractor. But when asked to identify the contractor, Mizrahi suddenly developed memory loss.

Harp submitted a \$1,200 bid to paint the exterior of the two-story home and was immediately issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license* and *advertising without a license*.

Nector Roman Fajardo, dba Mr. H. and Gregory Warweg, dba The Home

**Doctors**, advertised their home refurbishing services in Nifty Nickel. Fajardo submitted an electrical and drywall bid to restore the fire-damaged garage of the sting house for \$2,500. He was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license* and *advertising without a license*.

Warweg submitted a bid to install drywall, a water heater and electrical work for \$1,800. He was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*.

**Charles Edward Gallego, dba Charles Gallego Painting**, had advertised in The Home Magazine that he did painting. He submitted a bid to paint the exterior of the two-story sting house for \$2,600. He was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license* and *advertising without a license*.

Mario A. Salazar, dba Mario's Painting, was distributing his business cards in the neighborhood stating that he did painting. A NSCB investigator confronted him and issued Salazar a criminal citation for *advertising without a license*.

Those who received citations from the

(See Statewide Stings, Page 7)

### Criminal Cases Prosecuted: November 1-30, 2010

<u>Code:</u> IC = Investigative Costs F = Fine R = Restitution PB = Plea Bargin

\* 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				
Esquivel, Richard, dba Intrepid Iron	IC	Ruiz, Roberto	IC	
Miller, Carla Lynn	\$200 F; IC			
	North	nern Nevada		
Angeney, Fred Jacob	\$335 F; IC	Atchison, Tracy K.	\$445 F; IC	
Olson, Randall Dean	Jail; \$9,485.97 R	Dick, David Walter	\$72 F; IC	
Pinkerton, Joseph Edward	\$637 F; IC	Garcia-Tapia, Gabino	\$2,000 F; \$1,600 R	
Ramos, Ofelio	\$445 F; IC	Jones, Jeffery	\$640 F; IC	
Toto-Cruz, Manuel	\$627 F; IC	Pasco, David Antonio	\$1,000 F; IC	
Wilson, Donald Wayne Jr.	\$680 F	Rodelo, Joe Alfredo	Community Service	

## Administrative Citations Paid November 1-30, 2010

(Investigative Costs Also Assessed)

CONTRACTOR	LIC. #	FINE
Global Painting Corp.	55055	\$500.00
Pro Circuit Electric, Inc.	57788	\$1,000.00
T C C Cooling Co., LLC.	Pending	\$1,000.00

### Help Fight Unlicensed Contracting!

The Nevada State Contractors Board is inviting licensed contractors statewide to help fight unlicensed activity in their neighborhoods.

The Board, through its "Unlicensed Contractor Awareness Campaign," is asking licensed contractors to help by displaying a poster and distributing brochures to educate homeowners about the dangers of hiring unlicensed contractors.

Contact the Board for your informational packet that includes samples of

brochures available online, an Unlicensed Contractor Hotline Card to report unlicensed contractors, handouts and a laminate

"Unlicensed Contractor Awareness" poster.

Please e-mail your name, company name, license number, address and phone number to:

Ranya Botros, public information assistant at: rbotros@nscb.state.nv.us



## Statewide Stings ...

### (Continued from Page 6)

#### Reno/Sparks area included:

**Stephen R. Quinn, dba Steve the Painter**, provided a \$1,400 painting bid to a NSCB investigator. He bragged, in a Craigslist advertisement, that he had 25 years experience and was an expert in painting rounded corners in homes. But when it came to painting the garage, he said some of the pipes would probably get paint on them. Quinn apparently hadn't learned how to use painter's blue masking tape. He was issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*.

**Oscar Rojas-Segura** showed up at the jobsite and forgot to bring his tape measure. A NSCB investigator helped him out by suggesting that he pace out an area for the installation of pavers. Rojas-Segura also didn't speak or write in English very well, so his girlfriend assisted him in writing a \$1,600 bid for the job. Rojas-Segura was immediately issued a criminal citation for *contracting without a license*.

"These stings should serve as a warning that the NSCB is serious about cracking down on unlicensed contractors," said Margi Grein, Executive Officer of the Board.

"Consumers should not be taken in by promises of cheap work performed by unlicensed contractors. In reality it may cost more, and the consumer is left with little or no protection. It is important for consumers to check the license status of any company they wish to hire at our website: www.nscb.state.ny.us ."

## **2011 Nevada State Contractors Board Meetings**

The following 2011 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.

- January 27, 2011
- February 24, 2011
- March 24, 2011
- April 21, 2011
- May 26, 2011
- June 23, 2011

- July 21, 2011
- August 18, 2011
- September 22, 2011
- October 20, 2011
- November 17, 2011
- December 15, 2011

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

