

## SAFEGUARD YOUR HOME AND FAMILY

The biggest protection against unsafe, faulty construction work is to make sure the contractor you hire has a license from either Collier County or the State of Florida. By using licensed contractors you can save yourself time, worry and money, and feel safe from injury. You can also help by notifying the Contractor Licensing Section of



## CALL US WITH QUESTIONS OR COMPLAINTS

### FIND OUT OR LOSE OUT!

**If you have questions about needing a permit or want to know if your contractor is licensed or has had complaints**



*A Public Information Service provided  
by*

**Community Development  
& Environmental Services**

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<http://www.colliergov.net/bldgrev>

# Collier County Contractor Licensing

Exceeding Expectations



**Find out before  
you lose out!**

ARE YOU CONSIDERING REMODELING YOUR HOME, INSTALLING A POOL OR POOL CAGE, BUILDING AN ADDITION, HAVING MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL OR PLUMBING WORK DONE?

*Article III, Chapter 22 of the Code of Laws & Ordinances for Collier County and Chapter 489 of the Florida Statutes requires that contractors be licensed. The Collier County Building Review and Permitting Department Contractor Licensing Section regulates licensed contractors and prosecute unlicensed contractors. The Contractor Licensing Section can inform you whether your potential contractor is licensed and investigate building code complaints you may have against a contractor.*



UNLICENSED  
CONTRACTOR  
EARLY WARNING  
SIGNS

1. **Contractor displays only an occupational license.** In order to lawfully engage in contracting, a contractor must be State of Florida or Collier County certified. Ask to see the contractor's certificate of

2. **Contractor is only willing to work on weekends or after hours.** This is often a sign that the person is an employee who is moonlighting without a license. Licensed contractors are fulltime professionals.
3. **A large down payment is requested before work begins.** Payments should only be for a part of the work. In order to be licensed, contractors must demonstrate sufficient financial ability to perform the type of project which the license is issued.
4. **Many requests for money during early phases of construction.** As stated in number 3, the contractor should be solvent.
5. **You are asked to obtain the permit.** A licensed contractor who is in good standing will al-



ways obtain the permit; unlicensed contractors cannot pull permits.

6. **Verbal contract only; Contractor is not willing to put all**

**terms in writing.** This is always a sign of potential trouble.

7. **The contractor does not have proof of insurance.** Licensed contractors must have general liability and workers' compensation insurance in effect at all times
8. **You are informed that the job does not require a permit or an inspection.** Check with your local building official,. Almost all projects require a permit and an inspection. Any jobs over \$2500 require a signed Notice of Commencement.
9. **Someone other than the person or company contracting to do the work obtains the permit.** See Number 5
10. **You are asked to make your check payable to an individual's name (it should be made payable to a company), or asked to make payment in cash or to make the check payable to "cash".** Licensed contractors will almost always have a separate business account.

