

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

<u>Unlicensed Contractor Fernando Lagunas Cited</u> In Southwest Las Vegas Sting Operation

Unlicensed contractor Fernando Lagunas, dba Alpha Iron Works LLC, was cited by Nevada State Contractors Board investigators conducting a sting operation on March 15, 2007, in the I-215 and Charleston Boulevard area of Las Vegas.

Lagunas had submitted a bid to install a metal staircase and was cited for contracting without a license.

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 should 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.

Homeowners who use unlicensed contractors are not eligible for the Residential Recovery Fund, and by law their contracts are null and void.

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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