

Examples of licenses:

State

STATE OF FLORIDA AC# 9999003
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

CBC9999999 04/08/04 030522309

CERTIFIED BUILDING CONTRACTOR
CONSTRUCTION, JOE
BUILDING BUILDINGS INC

IS CERTIFIED under the provisions of Ch. 489 FS.
Expiration date: AUG 31, 2004 L04040800003

Pinellas County

PINELLAS COUNTY CONSTRUCTION LICENSING BOARD
COMPETENCY CARD

THIS CERTIFIES THAT
DBA

HAS MET ALL THE REQUIREMENTS FOR HOLDING A
COUNTYWIDE CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY NO.
AND IS DULY CERTIFIED AS A(N)

IN GOOD STANDING UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2005
DATE OF ISSUANCE

PINELLAS COUNTY CONSTRUCTION LICENSING BOARD
JOURNEYMAN CARD

THIS CERTIFIES THAT
IS DULY CERTIFIED AS A(N)

LICENSE NO.
IN GOOD STANDING UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2005
DATE OF ISSUANCE

PINELLAS COUNTY CONSTRUCTION LICENSING BOARD

THIS CERTIFIES THAT
DBA

STATE CERT #
HAS REGISTERED HIS LICENSE AND
FILED PROOF OF REQUIRED LIABILITY
AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE
WITH THIS BOARD.
IN GOOD STANDING UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2005
DATE OF ISSUANCE

Check with issuing agency
to verify license validity.

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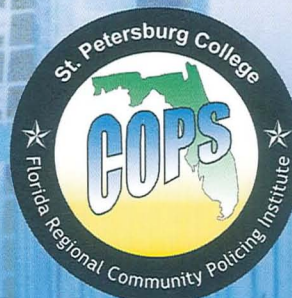
E&LONG

Enforcement & Licensing Officials
Networking Group

In conjunction with



Construction Licensing Officials Association
of Florida (CLOAF)
www.cloaf.org



Florida Regional Community Policing Institute
at St. Petersburg College
<http://cop.spcollege.edu/cop>

Unlicensed
contracting
is a **CRIME**
in the state
of Florida



A quick
reference guide
for
law enforcement

Unlicensed contracting is not a civil case – it's a CRIME!

Just like law enforcement certification, all licensed contractors have taken competency tests, completed background screening and are required to take continuing education to maintain their license.

Unfortunately, there are individuals misrepresenting themselves as licensed contractors. These unlicensed individuals can make your community vulnerable to scams, fraud, theft, shoddy workmanship, liability and risk.

Contracting without a license is a violation of F.S.S.489.127.(1)(f), a misdemeanor of the first degree.

During a declared state of emergency, the violation becomes a third degree felony.

After a conviction, any subsequent violation becomes an automatic third degree felony.



Why are professions licensed?

Certain professions are licensed to protect the health, safety and welfare of all Floridians.

How to verify that a contractor is state licensed

To verify that a contractor is state licensed, visit www.myfloridalicense.com or call toll-free (866) 532-1440. Your county licensing requirements may regulate specialty categories for trades such as painting, paving, irrigation, etc.

Note: An occupational license should not be construed as a contractor's license or certificate of competency under F.S.489.127. It is simply a business tax.

You may verify locally at:
Hillsborough: (813) 635-6309

Pinellas: (727) 536-4720 or 531-4784

Tampa Police:
(813) 276-3638 or (813) 276-3657

Warning signs

Some warning signs of an unlicensed contractor include:

- An unmarked commercial vehicle
- No permit posted on the job site
- No license number on the sign
- A work vehicle with an out-of-state tag
- Work performed at unusual times
- The work vehicle condition does not match the nature of the work
- The homeowner pulled the permit
- Contractor is from out of state



Responding to complaints

When responding to a home improvement, construction or contractor complaint:

1. Generate a formal police report.
2. Obtain copies of all relevant documentation, if possible

(for example, a contract, proposal, invoice, business cards, cancelled checks – front and back – or a method of payment).

3. Take appropriate action: physical arrest, refer to State's Attorney and/or notify all appropriate agencies.

Additional criminal charges that may apply

FS. 812.014	Theft
FS. 817.034	Scheme to defraud
FS. 713.345	Misapplied construction funds
FS. 501.055 (2)	Home solicitation without a permit
FS. 825.103	Exploitation of the elderly