

LICENSING

DID YOU KNOW?

That an Occupational License Tax Is not a license at all. It is a non regulatory tax by which local government grants the privilege of engaging in or managing a business, profession or occupation.

That a person who has paid an Occupational License tax as a “Handyman” cannot perform any phases of construction. They can only perform work such as mowing lawns, carpet and linoleum installation, changing door locks or light bulbs, cleaning gutters, attics, or garages, window tinting, etc.

DID YOU KNOW?

That if you buy Windows, Doors, Tile, Wood Flooring, Etc, from a business they cannot offer the installation without holding a Contractors Competency License in their respective fields. A separate contract must be drawn between the installer and the homeowner unless the business is qualified and licensed as a contractor.

That Pinellas County requires all applicants for contractor competency licensure to take a trade exam and business and law exam, show proof of proper insurance, Workers Compensation, and financial responsibility is also assessed.

That a person that performs contracting without being licensed properly can be charged with a 1st degree misdemeanor for the 1st offence and a 3rd degree felony for any contracting offense after being found guilty of unlicensed contracting.

That contracting without a license during a State Of Emergency is a felony in the third degree.

That complaints against unlicensed contractors should be reported to the appropriate licensing agency and the Sheriff's office. They are not a civil matter.

You can verify whether a contractor is licensed by calling PCCLB at 727-536-4720 or with the State at 813-554-2240. Or go to the websites at: www.pcclb.com or www.myfloridalicense.com

To file complaints against a contractor with either organization you can go to the web site and print out the complaint form or call and one will be sent to you.

Complaints against unlicensed contractors can be filed both with the Licensing Board and with Justice and Consumer Protection. (464-6200)

That individuals advertising in various newspapers, publications and the phone books, must have their contractor license number in the ad. If they do not do so they could be subject to fines.

If an unlicensed contractor is advertising in a category that requires licensure they are subject to a \$500.00 fine for the first offense.

That a contractor must list their license number in all forms of advertisements, on all their business cards, letter head, invoices, contracts, proposals, etc.

That all commercial vehicles are required by law to have signs, and contractors must list their license number on their signs.

That contracts written by unlicensed contractors are unenforceable by law.

That you can contest a lien filed by an unlicensed contractor against your property.