



Each year the staff of the Construction Industry Licensing Board of Palm Beach County assists the public in recovering several hundred thousands of dollars in would-be losses.

**YOU...can be your best defense against losses by not dealing with uncertified contractors....**

**Using a qualified, licensed contractors is not just a good idea...IT'S THE LAW.**

## **WARNING SIGNS WHICH INDICATE THE PERSON AND/OR COMPANY IS NOT CERTIFIED...**

- Newspaper/flyer ads, which do not include the individuals or company's contractor certification number, C xxx or U xxx prefix.
- Business Tax Receipt (Occupational License) is a tax paid to the county allowing an entity to work within county perimeters, this is not a license.
- A large down payment requested before work begins.
- Statements such as "It will be cheaper if you obtain your own permit."
- Oral contract only.
- The contractor prefers to work on weekends or after hours.
- Someone other than the person/company you contracted with obtains a building permit.
- Unable to provide a copy of their certificate of insurance

**IT'S YOUR MONEY, PROTECT IT**



## **YOU...CAN HELP YOURSELF!!**

**Simply by making three (3) telephone calls, you can greatly reduce your risk of loss to an uncertified contractor.**

**1<sup>st</sup> ...call to obtain a second bid for the work to be done.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> ...call to obtain a third bid for the work to be done.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> ...call Palm Beach County Contractors Certification Division at 233-5530 to confirm that your bids are from certified contractors or go to our web site at**

**[www.pbcgov.com/pzb/contractors](http://www.pbcgov.com/pzb/contractors) .**

The Construction Industry Licensing Board of Palm Beach County and Contractors Certification Division were established to protect the citizens of Palm Beach County, through a certification system of 48 construction trades.

Some of the trades affecting homeowners include:

- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Acoustical/Suspended Acoustical Ceiling
- Air Conditioning
- Aluminum Specialties
- Building Contractor
- Burglar Alarm
- Carpentry
- Carpentry-Finish
- Communication & Sound Systems
- Concrete Forming and Placing
- Decorative Metal
- Drywall
- Fabric Awnings
- Fence
- Garage Door
- General Contractor
- Glass & Glazing
- Hurricane Shutter/Awning
- Insulation
- Irrigation Sprinkler
- Lightning Protection System
- Marine
- Masonry
- Painting
- Paver Brick
- Paving
- Plastering
- Residential Contractor
- Roofing
- Septic Tank
- Signage
- Swimming Pool Maintenance & Repair
- Swimming Pool Construction
- Tennis Courts
- Tile & Marble
- TV Antenna & Satellite Dish
- Window & Door

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Help us help you...verify the certification of competency of a contractor before you enter into a contract.

### WARNING

Hiring an unlicensed contractor, while possibly saving a little money, could result in one or more of the following:

- Paying for the work twice.
- Insurance coverage problems.
- Poor workmanship and or construction that do not meet building code standards, resulting in the work being torn out and re-done.
- Possible code enforcement actions with daily fines to the property owner.
- Loss of eligibility to the State of Florida's Homeowners' Construction Recovery Fund.
- Delays with title insurance when selling the property.

So before hiring an unlicensed contractor, ask yourself this question:

**Is it worth the risk?**

**CONTRACTORS CERTIFICATION DIVISION**  
2300 N. Jog Road, Ste. 2W-61  
West Palm Beach, FL. 33411-2741

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday  
(Except holidays)  
(561) 233-5525 - Fax (561) 233-5554  
[www.pbcgov.com/pzb/contactors](http://www.pbcgov.com/pzb/contactors)

## A GUIDE TO PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM UNCERTIFIED CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS

**CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY LICENSING  
BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY**



Contractors Certification Division  
*Dept. of Planning, Zoning & Building*  
**(561) 233-5525**  
**Fax (561) 233-5554**  
or go to our web site at  
[www.pbcgov.com/pzb/contactors](http://www.pbcgov.com/pzb/contactors)

**PALM BEACH COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**