



Upon request, the Contractors State License Board provides information about a contractor's license, bond status, and workers' compensation as well as pending and prior legal actions.

LICENSE STATUS

If you want information about a contractor's license status, please call the Board's toll-free telephone number, [1-800-321-2752](tel:1-800-321-2752) or log onto the Internet at www.cslb.ca.gov.

LEGAL ACTION HISTORY

If you want information about a contractor's license history and pending or prior legal actions, please call the appropriate [REGION OFFICE'S LEGAL ACTION DISCLOSURE](#) phone number:
[Northern Region \(916\) 255-4041](tel:916-255-4041)
[Southern Region \(562\) 466-6021](tel:562-466-6021)

COMPLAINT FORMS

If you have a complaint against a contractor, call the Board at [1-800-321-2752](tel:1-800-321-2752)

And ask for a copy of "A Consumer Guide to Filing Construction Complaints" and the complaint form.

CSLB can tell if your contractor is licensed, in good standing, and in the proper classification to fit your needs.

You can do more to protect yourself BEFORE hiring a contractor than the Contractors State License Board can do to help AFTER you've been harmed. Call or check their web site now for valuable information on selecting a contractor.



This brochure was put together for your benefit.

All information was taken from "What You Should Know Before You Hire A Contractor" 6/01, published by the CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD, PO BOX 26000, Sacramento, CA 95826 1-800-321-2752



**City of Redwood City
CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Climate Best by Government Test

P.O. Box 391
1017 Middlefield Road
Redwood City, California 94064

Phone: 650-780-7350
Fax: 650-780-7348

Email: code-enforcement@redwoodcity.org

mkc:4/11/03-Publisher / Contractor.brochure

**Do's & Don'ts for
California Consumers**

**What You
Should Know**

**BEFORE YOU
HIRE A
CONTRACTOR**



CODE ENFORCEMENT
CITY OF REDWOOD CITY



**DON'T GET NAILED
BY AN
UNSCRUPULOUS OR
UNLICENSED
CONTRACTOR.**

*Before you hire a contractor or
sign a contract for home
repair, call the :*
**CONTRACTORS STATE
LICENSE BOARD AT
1-(800)-321-2752.**

GENERAL ADVICE

- **DON'T** be a victim. **DO** be aware that consumers have been targeted by scam artists posing as contractors.
- **DO** deal only with licensed contractors.
- **DON'T** hire the first contractor who comes along.
- **DO** ask to see the contractor's "pocket license" or Home Improvement Sales Registration.



Call the Contractors Board

- **DO** call the **Contractors State License Board** to verify the information provided by the bidding contractor at **1-(800)-321-2752**, or log onto the Internet at: www.cslb.ca.gov. Be prepared with the contractor's name, license number, and business address.
- **DO** get at least three bids and ask for references of work the contractor has completed in the local area.
- **DO** request **What You Should Know Before You Hire a Contractor**, a publication to help you make informed decisions when dealing with contractors. Order by calling **1-(800)-321-2752**, or download an order form on the Internet at www.cslb.ca.gov.

Financial Information

- **DON'T** pay cash.
- **DON'T** let the payments get ahead of the work completed, and don't pay the full costs of the job up-front.
- **DO** know how much to give as a deposit.

Under state law, when undertaking a home improvement or repair job, contractors cannot ask for a deposit of more than 10% of the total cost of the job or \$1000, whichever is less — unless the contractor provides a bond, approved bond equivalent, or completion of your contract. Any such bond is in addition to the bond required of all contractors for licensure.

- **DO** require a written contract and **don't** sign it until you fully

