

## Why You Should Hire a Licensed Contractor

It's the Law. However, you, as an owner occupied resident can legally obtain permits to work on your residence.

Hiring a licensed contractor ensures:

- Contractor has met qualifications to do the job.
- Contractor will apply for all required permits.
- Contractor will be insured and will not become your liability if a worker is injured on the job.



- Safety of individuals and buildings and meet current Building Codes.
- Healthy living environment i.e., indoor air quality.
- There is recourse for sub-standard work, licensed contractors are regulated by the State and or County.
- The contractor will request Inspections, Certificates of Completion, and Certificates of Occupancy, as needed.

## How to Recognize an Unlicensed Contractor

Unmarked contractor's vehicles.

Construction being done mainly on week-ends.

Construction done mainly before or after regular working hours.

Requests a huge initial deposit.

Requests the deposit in cash.

Reluctant to provide a written quote with work details, cost, and end date.

Request that you apply for Building Permits.

Unable to verify license go on the Florida State [myfloridalicense.com](http://myfloridalicense.com) or Pasco County [pascocountyfl.net](http://pascocountyfl.net) click on contractor licensing.



Building Construction Services  
Building Inspections Division  
Unlicensed Contractor Program  
(727) 847-2411, Extension 2692

To verify a license call 727-847-8009

Website: <http://www.pascocountyfl.net>

## PASCO COUNTY UNLICENSED CONTRACTOR PROGRAM Building Inspections Division

# Hire Only Licensed Contractors... it's the Law



**Report Suspected Unlicensed  
Contractors  
(727) 847-2411 x 2692**

# Unlicensed Contracting is Illegal In Pasco County

## When is a Permit Required

There are exemptions for all construction, interior and/or exterior work. Contact Building Construction Services for specifics 727-847-8127.



## Why Do I Need a Permit

To avoid Public Health concerns, e.g., food safety; life safety concerns, e.g., structural stability.

## Who Can Obtain a Permit

Homeowners and Licensed Contractors

## How Do I Obtain a Permit

Online or in person at the Building Construction Services, Central Permitting offices located in New Port Richey, Land O'Lakes, or Dade City.

## When Does a Permit Expire

A permit is good for six months unless an extension is granted.

## Is a Certificate of Completion or a Certificate of Occupancy Required

At the completion of a permitted remodeling project, it is recommended that a Certificate of Completion be obtained. At the completion of new construction it is recommended that a Certificate of Occupancy be obtained.

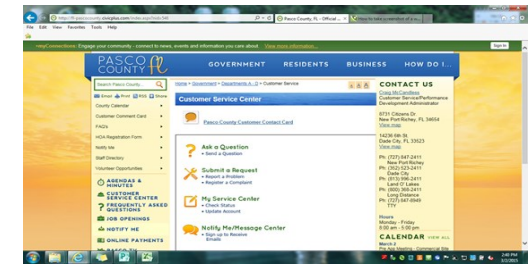
## Avoid Unlicensed Activities

- Visit the State of Florida and Pasco County license websites to verify a license is current and in good standing. Myfloridalicense.com and pascocountyfl.net
- Do not accept an "Occupational License" i.e., a business license; it is not a Contractor's License.
- Get a written contract with a detailed description of the work to be done, completion date, and the total cost.
- The Contractor's license number should be on the vehicle, business card, contract, etc.
- Ask for references and check them.
- Do not pay a portion or all of the money up front or in cash.
- Never write checks made payable to individuals when dealing with a company.
- Ask the contractor to show you proof of General Liability and/or Workman's Compensation Insurance.
- Be suspicious of contractors who solicit door to door.

To report suspected Unlicensed Contractors, call (727) 847-2411, Extension 2692, or go online to our Customer Service Center on the County's website at:

[www.pascocountyfl.net](http://www.pascocountyfl.net)

Go to the customer service page



Please provide:

- Individual or "Company" Name
- Location Where Work is Occurring
- Type of Work Being Done
- Vehicle Description
- Day and Time When Activity is Occurring

## Help to Deter Unlicensed Contractors