

THE BLUEPRINT

PROTECTING THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND GENERAL WELFARE OF ALL PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE VOCATION OF CONTRACTING

Inside this Issue

- MSBOC AND MS AG ANNOUNCE JOINT TASK FORCE
- MSBOC SPOTLIGHT STORIES
- MSBOC DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

How to Contact the Board

Mississippi State Board of Contractors
Post Office Box 320279
Jackson, Mississippi 39232-0279
Ph: (601) 354-6161
Fx: (601) 354-6715

Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

SUMMER 2013

MSBOC and MS AG join forces to fight fraud

Following a series of recent storms, the Mississippi State Board of Contractors (MSBOC) and the Mississippi Attorney General's Office (MSAGO) are joining forces to send a message to crooked contractors that bad business won't be tolerated in the Magnolia State and violators will be prosecuted.

Mississippi has been hit hard by storms in 2013, everything from tornadoes to hail storms, causing an increase in unlicensed and fraudulent contractors moving to the state looking for work. "While there are a lot of honest contractors out there, a disaster really brings out the crooks trying to take advantage of those already in a vulnerable position," said Attorney General Hood. "That's why we are joining forces with the Board of Contractors to send the message that we are united in our fight against crooked contractors."

MSBOC disaster response teams have been out in storm stricken areas warning property owners about unscrupulous contractors and following up on complaints. "By joining forces with the Attorney General's Office, we hope to keep storm-damaged residents from being victimized by an unscrupulous contractor," said Stephanie Sills Lee, Executive Director of MSBOC.

A conviction for Home Repair Fraud could result in up to ten years behind bars. The MSAGO and the MSBOC both intend to prosecute, to

the fullest extent of the law, anyone caught committing home repair fraud.

Competition Showcases Construction Skills

The Mississippi Construction Education Foundation (MCEF) in conjunction with the Mississippi Department of Education and several industry partners recently hosted the 2013 SkillsUSA Mississippi State construction championship at the Trademart in Jackson.

The competition offered high school and community college students along with other skilled crafts persons enrolled in MCEF's apprenticeship program a chance to showcase their skills in 11 construction craft areas including carpentry, masonry, sheet metal and HVAC. The winners advanced to the national competition.

This is the first year MCEF partnered with SkillsUSA to host the competition. MSBOC helped support the event by donating a portion of penalties collected by the board for the educational opportunity. Promoting a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together helps ensure a skilled workforce for the future.

MSBOC board members Tommy Kline, Tony Carroll and George Marler helped judge the competition that included competitors from Mississippi high schools, colleges and apprenticeship programs.

MSBOC SPOTLIGHT STORIES...



MSBOC Board Members assisted with the 2013 MCEF/SkillsUSA competition. From left to right are George Marler (team building judge), Tony Carroll (Project Leader) and Tommy Kline (team building judge)

MULTISTATE RECIPROCITY MEETING

Representatives from Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee recently met to discuss reciprocity issues among the various states' contractor licensing boards.

The goal of the meeting was to address problems contractors face in obtaining a license and develop ways to make the process easier.



Pictured above L to R: Greg Crow (AR), Stephanie Lee (MS), Vic Weston (LA), Judy Dupuy (LA), and Joseph Rogers (AL). Not pictured Michael McDuff (LA)

CERTIFICATION COMPLETED

MSBOC investigators attended the National Certified Investigator Training (NCIT) program offered through the Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) held earlier this year. The hands-on training and certification program promotes regulatory excellence and offers broad instruction in the areas of evidence, interviewing, report writing, and testifying.

Four MSBOC enforcement officers completed the basic investigator training program and are pictured below. MSBOC Investigator Jamie Cushman achieved a perfect score on his certification exam.



Pictured L to R: Enforcement Director Charles Sharman, Investigator Kate Hilliard, Investigator Jamie Cushman and Investigator Wallace Pogue.

MSBOC INTRODUCES A MOBILE TEXTING ALERT SYSTEM

In an effort to better communicate with contractors and license holders, MSBOC is introducing a new mobile texting alert system.



GET CONNECTED TO MSBOC. TEXT ALERTS TO 601.863.8091 TO GET IMPORTANT NEWS & UPDATES.

STANDARD MSG RATES APPLY

Key Grounds for Disciplinary Actions and Related Statutes

COMMERCIAL:

Miss Code Ann. §31-3-13

Contractor is not responsible.

Miss Code Ann. §31-3-21

Submitting a bid, entering into a contract, or otherwise engaging in the business of a contractor without holding a certificate of responsibility number issued by MSBOC.

RESIDENTIAL:

Miss Code Ann. §73-59-3

Unlicensed residential construction or residential remodeling

Miss Code Ann. §73-59-13(1)(a)

Violating any of the provisions of the residential statutes or the rules or regulations of the board pertaining to the work of residential building or residential improvement.

Miss Code Ann. §73-59-13(1)(b)

Fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation in obtaining a license.

Miss Code Ann. §73-59-13(1)(c)

Gross negligence or misconduct.

Miss Code Ann. §73-59-13(1)(d)

Engaging in work of residential building or residential improvement on an expired license or while under suspension or revocation of license unless the suspension or revocation be abated in accordance with the residential statutes.

Miss Code Ann. §73-59-13(1)(e)

Loaning a license to an unlicensed person.

Miss Code Ann. §73-59-13(1)(f)

Failing to maintain workers' compensation insurance, if applicable.

Miss Code Ann. §73-59-13(1)(g)

Failing to pay for goods or services for which the builder is contractually bound.

APRIL AND MAY 2013 DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

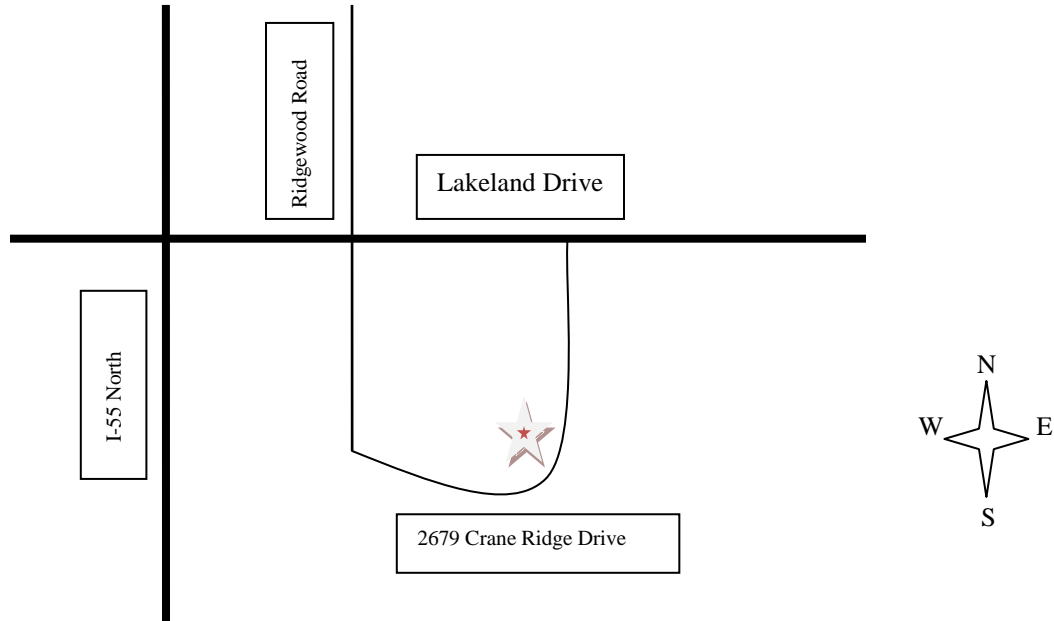
Revisal of business and individuals discipline by MSBOC

CONTRACTOR	COR/LICENSE #	VIOLATION
Tyler Construction Group	16998	31-3-13
Cowan, Inc.	15660	31-3-13
Cowan, Inc.	15660	31-3-13
Roger Hartfield	07338	73-59-13(1)(c)
Clearbrook Residential Builders	17115	73-59-13(1)(c)
Clearbrook Residential Builders	17115	73-59-13(1)(c)
Atkins Construction Co.	06457	73-59-13(1)(c)
John W. Willis	15636	73-59-13(1)(c)
Orten Grinnell d/b/a Momentum Dev., LLC	Unlicensed	73-59-3
Dewayne Roberson d/b/a R & R Builders	Unlicensed	73-59-3
Wesley Paul Mertz d/b/a Red Creek Ren.	Unlicensed	73-59-3

DIRECTIONS TO MSBOC OFFICE

MSBOC's physical address is 2679 Crane Ridge Drive, Suite C, Jackson, MS 39216.

Turn south at the intersection of Lakeland Drive and Ridgewood Road. As the road curves, the name changes to Crane Ridge Drive. We are located at 2679 Crane Ridge Drive, Suite C.



2679 Crane Ridge Drive, Suite C
Jackson, Mississippi 39216
PH: 601-354-6161
FX: 601-354-6715

Post Office Box 320279
Jackson, Mississippi 39232-0279