



The Contractors State License Board, a semi-autonomous board under the umbrella of the California Department of Consumer Affairs, licenses and regulates California's 290,000 contractors, and is regarded as one of the leading consumer protection agencies in the United States.

CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD

- The Contractors State License Board (CSLB) is a consumer protection board that licenses and regulates California's construction industry.
- In addition to educating consumers about contractors and construction law, CSLB administers examinations to test prospective licensees, issues licenses, investigates complaints against licensed and unlicensed contractors, issues citations, suspends or revokes licenses, and seeks administrative, criminal, and civil sanctions against those who violate state contracting laws.
- There are about 290,000 licensed contractors in California, in 44 different licensing classifications.
- Licensed contractors have passed both a trade and business examination, and hold a contractor bond. Contractors with employees must have a valid workers' compensation insurance policy. C-39 Roofing contractors must carry workers' compensation insurance even if they do not have employees.
- CSLB's Statewide Investigative Fraud Team (SWIFT) proactively works to eliminate unlicensed contracting in California. Undercover sting operations and sweeps of active construction sites are conducted weekly around the state. SWIFT encourages the public to report unlicensed activity by submitting a SWIFT Lead Referral form, found on CSLB's website.
- **CSLB conservatively estimates that there are at least 60,000 unlicensed operators working in California every day** (based on ±300,000 state-licensed contractors). An estimated 20 percent of construction sites that are inspected by CSLB reveal unlicensed operators; about 20 percent of consumer complaints received by CSLB are filed against unlicensed operators; and about 20 percent of construction solicitations are made by unlicensed people (this figure may be higher for online ads, such as on craigslist.org).
- In fiscal year 2013-14, CSLB helped recover nearly \$51 million in ordered restitution for consumers.

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CheckTheLicenseFirst.com



CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD

Mission Statement

The Contractors State License Board protects consumers by regulating the construction industry through policies that promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the public in matters relating to construction.

The Board accomplishes this by:

Ensuring that construction is performed in a safe, competent, and professional manner;

Licensing contractors and enforcing licensing laws;

Requiring licensure for any person practicing or offering to practice construction contracting;

Enforcing the laws, regulations, and standards governing construction contracting in a fair and uniform manner;

Providing resolution to disputes that arise from construction activities; and

Educating consumers so they can make informed choices.