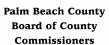


Department of Planning, Zoning & Building

2300 North Jog Road West Palm Beach, FL 33411-2741 (561) 233-5000

Planning Division 233-5300 Zoning Division 233-5200 Building Division 233-5100 Code Enforcement 233-5500 Contractors Certification 233-5525 Administration Office 233-5005 Executive Office 233-5228 www.pbcgov.com/pzb



Paulette Burdick, Mayor Melissa McKinlay, Vice Mayor

Hal R. Valeche

Dave Kerner

Steven L. Abrams

Mary Lou Berger

Mack Bernard

County Administrator

Verdenia C. Baker

"An Equal Opportunity

Affirmative Action Employer"

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ON: September 19, 2017

PALM BEACH COUNTY **PLANNING, ZONING & BUILDING**

Hurricane Irma - Hiring of Contractors

Home repairs/contractors: In the aftermath of Hurricane Irma many citizens may need to make home repairs. Please note that many home repairs by law must be performed by licensed contractors and with the issuance of building code permits. Hiring an unlicensed contractor and not obtaining building permits, while possibly saving a little money, could result in one or more of the following:

- Paying for the work twice for poor workmanship, not meeting building codes and lack of building permits
- Inability to recover funds from your insurance
- Possible code enforcement actions with daily fine
- Inability to obtain Federal and State assistance

Warning signs of unlicensed contractors:

- Newspaper/flyers ads with no contractor name and license number
- Display of a Business Tax Receipt instead of a real contractor's license
- Demand for a large down payment
- Requesting you to obtain the permits instead of the contractor
- Oral contracts only
- Contractor prefers to work after hours or weekends only
- Unable to or cannot show you their general liability and workers compensation insurance certificate.

Contractor/permit verification: We urge you to verify if your home repair requires a licensed contractor; that the contractor you are hiring is licensed and whether you need to obtain a building permit. You may contact us at:

Contractors Certification Division

Tel: (561) 233-5525

Website: http://discover.pbcgov.org/pzb/contractors

Building Division

Tel: (561) 233-5120

Website: http://discover.pbcgov.org/pzb/building