When Choosing a Contractor

Choosing a contractor for a home improvement project can be overwhelming. Here are a few tips to help you.

Tips on choosing a contractor:

☐ Verify that the contractor is properly licensed with Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board (PCCLB). An occupational license is not a construction license.

☐ The license number must be displayed on all advertising, including vehicles, websites, business cards and contracts.

☐ Get several written estimate. Estimates should include a detailed description of the work, the start and completion date, payment schedule, list of materials, the total cost of the job and any warranties.

☐ Check-out the complaint history of the business with the licensing agency, Pinellas County Consumer Protection and the Better Business Bureau.

☐ Ask friends and family for recommendations.

☐ Ask the business for references and be sure to follow through with verifying them.

☐ Beware of contractors who ask to be paid in cash or request large down payments up front.

☐ The contractor should obtain all required permits.

☐ Make sure to stick to the payment schedule. Don’t make final payment until all the work and final inspections are completed.

☐ Make sure your contractor provides you with releases of liens from his subcontractors and suppliers with each payment and a Contractor’s Affidavit at the completion of the job. This assures that everyone involved with this job has been paid.

Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board-727-582-3100
www.pcclb.org

Pinellas County Building & Development Review Services-727-464-3888
www.pinellascounty.org/build