



Rick Staly, Sheriff  
**FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
*"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."*

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## NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** Tuesday, September 12, 2017

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### **Home Needing Repairs? Hire Licensed Contractors**

As the county begins to assess the damage from Hurricane Irma, Sheriff Rick Staly is reminding residents of the importance of hiring licensed contractors. In Flagler County, all contractors are required to have a license if they are doing anything more than tree or debris removal. Ask to see the license and then verify that it is valid through the City of Palm Coast or the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

"There is a reason that contractor licenses are required when performing these types of services," Sheriff Staly said. "Not only does it ensure that the work is meeting safety standards required by building codes, but it protects the homeowner from shady service or the possibility of getting ripped off. Don't take the best estimate. Do your research to be sure the work is done right."

If anyone has questions about whether a contractor is licensed or whether they need building permits before doing work on their home or business, contact the City of Palm Coast Building Department at 386-986-3780. Or, residents can easily access the state's Department of Business and Professional Regulation website to see if a contractor is licensed. Do this before any money changes hands. The Department of Business and Professional Regulation website is <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/>

Unlicensed activity is illegal and can result in misdemeanor or felony charges if an individual is convicted. Residents may report any suspected unlicensed activity by emailing [ULA@myfloridalicense.com](mailto:ULA@myfloridalicense.com) or calling the Unlicensed Activity Hotline at 1-866-532-1440.

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