

**ABOUT SOUTH  
CAROLINA LEGAL  
SERVICES**

*The mission of SCLS is to provide legal services to protect the rights and represent the interests of low income South Carolinians.*

South Carolina Legal Services provides free legal assistance to eligible, low-income persons in civil matters (we do not provide legal assistance in criminal or traffic matters).

Carolina Legal Services provides community education and detailed informational brochures

South Carolina Legal Services

Charleston: 888-469-7444

Columbia: 888-799-9668

Conway: 866-597-0100

Florence: 877-238-3418

Greenville: 800-763-4825

Greenwood: 800-922-3114

Orangeburg: 800-522-9354

Rock Hill: 800-922-3853

Spartanburg: 800-922-8176



2109 Bull Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

**SOUTH CAROLINA  
LEGAL SERVICES**

Phone: 803.799.9668  
Fax: 803.799.1781  
E-mail: [sclegalservices.org](mailto:sclegalservices.org)

**SOUTH CAROLINA  
LEGAL SERVICES**

Making justice available to  
all low income South Carolinians

**HOME REPAIRS  
DO'S & DON'TS**

**AFTER THE  
STORM**



**LEGAL AID TELEPHONE  
INTAKE SERVICE:  
1-888-346-5592**



South Carolina  
**BAR FOUNDATION**  
Lawyers Sustaining Justice



## SOME CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTING DO'S AND DON'TS

**DO** ask to see the contractor's license and make sure it matches the person showing it;

**DO** determine how long the contractor has been in business;

**DO** contact the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (803-896-4300) to verify the current status of the license;

**DO** ask for references and check them out;

**DO** choose several different contractors and get estimates from each one;

**DO** get the agreement in writing— read the contract, fill in all of the blank spaces, make sure the contract contains the contractor's name, address, telephone number, license number, description of the work, completion date, and any warranty agreements.

**DON'T** hire a contractor who requires advance payment—arrange to pay upon completion or in installments.

**DON'T** sign the work completion certificate until all the work is satisfactorily completed;

**DON'T** pay cash; and

**DON'T** pull the construction permits.



## WATCH OUT FOR SCAMS!

Victims of Natural Disasters should be careful not to be victimized a second time by unscrupulous adjusters, contractors, or retailers.

Verify that an adjuster is licensed by **803- 896-4686**.

Consumers should verify that a FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) or SBA (Small Business Administration) representative has laminated photo ID card. A FEMA or SBA clothing item is **NOT** proof of an affiliation.

“The price-gouging statute does not forbid making a profit but it does forbid profiteering.”

Consumers can check if a contractor is licensed at <http://www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/contractors/>.

Any suspected fraud or price gouging can be reported to the State Attorney General's Office at **803-734-3970**.



## SOUTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

The South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) website is a great resource for finding rebuilding resources after a natural disaster.

The website provides information on:

- How to remove mold from your home
- How to rebuild smarter and safer
- How to find a contractor
- And much more!

The SCEMD rebuilding resource website can be found at <http://scemd.org/recovery-section/rebuilding-resources>.



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