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Home Improvement Registration

Effective August 1, 2012, Act 193 of the 2012 Regular Legislative Session provides for significant changes to Home Improvement Contracting under the statutory authority of the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC).

Pursuant to Act 193, every agreement to perform home improvement services in excess of \$1,500 (formerly \$7,500) must be in writing. In accordance with this Act, the LSLBC will now require that all home improvement contractors be registered with the Board in order to perform services in excess of \$1,500, but not to exceed \$75,000. Further, home improvement contractors will be required to furnish proof of general liability insurance in a minimum amount of \$100,000 to the LSLBC. This is in addition to the current requirement for worker's compensation insurance. The Act also requires home improvement contractors to obtain any insurance required by federal law.

Additional requirements of this Act provide that, if the contract is to repair a roof paid with insurance proceeds, there are specific requirements regarding the right to cancel the contract, notice of cancellation, and return of deposit. The Act prohibits home improvement contractors from advertising to pay an applicable insurance deductible on a roof repair. This prohibition is not only a violation of the Contractor Licensing Law, it is also a "prohibited practice" under the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.

Act 193 can be viewed in its entirety at www.legis.state.la.us using this link: http://www.legis.state.la.us/billdata/streamdocument.asp?did=805633.

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