

*Important Advice for People Affected by the Storm"

As a former contractor I share this advice with you. As you begin to assess the damage and the repair of your property I cannot stress enough that you only deal with contractors that are licensed for your area. There will be a flood of people that will arrive from outside of your area and sell you on fixing your problem quickly, and that sounds great. However, often this results in them leaving with your "deposit" not to be seen again. The questions should be.

1. Are you a licensed contractor in the state of South Carolina?, or what ever state you may reside.
2. If they are, you need to get their license number. With this you can verify them through the LLR Board. Sometime these licenses may be voided because they have had poor business practices and they are hoping to hoodwink you. Make sure they are in good standing.
3. Also, make sure they have a current business license for your county or city. A county business license does not always mean they can work in the city. If they are not, they cannot pull a permit to do the work. Make them show you a copy or get the number and proof of insurance.
4. Do not give a deposit until they show up with materials and/or laborers and never more than 15%, if they are legitimate they should be able to carry the job to some degree. They will survive getting draws as they go along. Never let them get ahead of you on the money verses the work, this is a prime time for them to skip out.
5. Always hold a portion until you are completely satisfied.
6. Be patient, eagerness can be your worst enemy.
7. Don't deal with someone just because they are cheap, chances are they are trying to suck you in.
8. Ask for references, it's their main source of advertisement and then follow up.
9. If you have questions IM me.

Best to you,

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