

Rebuilding After a Natural Disaster

The Contractors State License Board (CSLB) urges property owners to be cautious and to make sure that anyone who offers to assist after a disaster is qualified and state-licensed. The key is to avoid rushing into any agreement with a contractor until you have verified their qualifications with CSLB, and their work through recommendations from others who have previously contracted with them. A local business license is not the same as being state-licensed in a trade, skill, or area of expertise

What Type of Contract Should You Get

Generally, when it comes to the type of contract required for reconstruction in a disaster area, CSLB classifies jobs in one of two categories, home improvement or new construction:

- Home improvement - If any part of existing single-family dwelling, including a foundation or chimney remains, and the project would include making alterations, or adding to those remaining parts by reconstructing a home on or around them, CSLB considers that a home improvement project. The contract requirements in Business and Professions Code (BPC) section (§)7159 would apply.
- New construction - If there are no remaining parts of the single-family dwelling, and the lot is simply bare ground, and a new single-family dwelling was being built, the requirements of BPC § 7164 would apply.

The main two differences between requirements of BPC 7159 and 7164 are that 7164 does not have a limitation on down payment amounts or progress payments, nor does it require that the salesperson be registered with CSLB. CSLB does encourage contractors to include these in new construction contracts.

There are no CSLB contract requirements for multi-family units, commercial structures, or public works projects.

Note: From a code compliance and tax assessment standpoint, many home improvement projects consist of work considered “new construction”, such as room additions or a swimming pool. BPC § 7151, 7159, and 7164 do not consider if the contracted work is new construction or remodeling existing. CSLB’s interpretation listed here is for the type of contract the contractor is required to use for the rebuilding.

Tips for Hiring a Contractor

- Use CSLB’s New “Find My Licensed Contractor” feature to identify licensed contractors based in your area;
- Check the contractors license status and review other information on the CSLB website for all contractors you’re considering;

- Get bids from at least three licensed contractors, and don't necessarily take the lowest bid, especially if it's much lower than other bids. Be sure to ask to see their plastic pocket license and a photo identification;
- Watch out for construction “consultants” who want to manage your project; they, too, must be CSLB-licensed if they bid or contract for a project or oversee the project and workers (BPC § 7026.1). (The construction consultant category does not apply to designers.)
- Get three references from each bidder, and view their previous work in person;
- Get your contract in writing, and make sure it is detailed, including the time schedule, down payment and subsequent payment schedule, scope of work, description of materials and equipment. Document all change orders with addendums that are signed by both you and the contractor.
- For reconstruction classified as home improvement, state law prohibits a contractor from asking for a down payment of more than 10 percent of the contract price or \$1,000 (whichever is less). Only contractors who carry a blanket performance and payment bond on file with CSLB can ask for a higher down payment. Contractors can ask for more than that amount for jobs classified as “new construction.” However, it is recommended that you ask your contractor to honor the same principles as home improvement projects located in the disaster zone. Never pay in cash.
- In most cases, in a disaster area you have up to seven business days to cancel your contract without penalty;
- Ensure on-site construction materials are secured by a fence.
- Get lien releases, signed by both the contractor and the subcontractor once work is completed and paid throughout the duration of the project. Free lien release and waiver forms are available on CSLB’s website.
- Make sure your contractor pulls all required permits from the appropriate city or county building departments. Disaster recovery is not an ideal time for you to be listed as the “owner-builder” of your construction project. If anything goes wrong—from substandard work to subcontractor injury at the construction site—you, as the “owner builder,” are responsible for damages. As an owner-builder, you also employ the contractors and workers and must follow state employment and tax laws.
- Try to be present when building inspectors are on site to hear whether there are any problems or necessary corrections.

CSLB Website: www.cslb.ca.gov

Search contractor's license information
You can search by:

1. License Number
2. Business Name
3. Personnel Name

Instant License Check

Enter the contractor license number:

Q SEARCH

Don't know the license number? [Click Here](#)

Find My Licensed Contractor

Create list of contractors in your area,
based on city of zip code and contractor's
license classification

Need help in finding a contractor? You can now create
your own specialized list of licensed contractors in
your area.

Q SEARCH

Popular Pages

Quick links to:

- File a Complaint
- CSLB Educational Materials
- "Disaster Help Center"

[Application Status](#)

[File a Complaint](#)

[Forms and
Applications](#)

[Guides and
Publications](#)

[Board Meetings](#)

[Most Wanted](#)

[Disaster Help
Center](#)

[Senior Scam
StopperSM](#)

[CSLB Job
Openings](#)

[Solar Smart Tips](#)

[Find My Licensed
Contractor](#) NEW

CSLB Website: www.cslb.ca.gov

Contractor's License Detail for License #465012

Contractor License Number

DISCLAIMER: A license status check provides information taken from the CSLB license database. Before relying on this information, you should be aware of the following limitations. (hide/show disclaimer)

- CSLB complaint disclosure is restricted by law ([C&P 7124.6](#)) if this entity is subject to public complaint disclosure, a link for complaint disclosure will appear below. Click on the link or button to obtain complaint and/or legal action information.
- Per [C&P 7071.17](#), only construction related civil judgments reported to the CSLB are disclosed.
- Arbitrations are not listed unless the contractor fails to comply with the terms of the arbitration.
- Due to workload, there may be relevant information that has not yet been entered onto the Board's license database.

Contractor business name, address, phone number

Type of Entity

Business Information

FRANK M BOOTH INC
PO BOX 5
MARYSVILLE, CA 95901
Business Phone Number:(530) 742-7124

Entity Corporation
Issue Date: 11/01/1984
Expire Date: 11/30/2018

Current License Status

Active, Inactive, Suspended, Revoked

License Status

This license is current and active.

All information below should be reviewed.

Additional Status

[Click here for Complaint Disclosure information.](#)

Complaint Disclosure Information

Citation / Legal Case / Criminal Case

Classifications

- [A - GENERAL ENGINEERING CONTRACTOR](#)
- [B - GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTOR](#)
- [C4 - BOILER, HOT WATER HEATING AND STEAM FITTING](#)
- [C10 - ELECTRICAL](#)
- [C18 - FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACTOR](#)
- [C20 - WARM-AIR HEATING, VENTILATING AND AIR-CONDITIONING](#)
- [C38 - PLUMBING](#)
- [C39 - REFRIGERATION](#)
- [C42 - SANITATION SYSTEM](#)
- [C43 - SHEET METAL](#)

License Classification(s)

Bonding Information

Contractor's Bond

This license filed a Contractor's Bond with [TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY](#).

Bond Number: 103387984

Bond Amount: \$15,000

Effective Date: 01/01/2018

[Contractor's Bond History](#)

Bond of Qualifying Individual

The qualifying individual LAWRENCE RAYMOND BOOTH certified that he/she owns 10 percent or more of the voting stock/membership interest of this company, therefore, the Bond of Qualifying Individual is not required.

Effective Date: 11/01/1984

Bond Information

Workers' Compensation

This license has workers compensation insurance with the [TRAVELERS PROPERTY CASUALTY COMPANY OF AMERICA](#).

Policy Number:DRJUG208550817

Effective Date: 07/01/2017

Expire Date: 07/01/2018

[Workers' Compensation History](#)

Workers' Compensation Information

"Exempt" of policy info

Other

- Personnel listed on this license (current or disassociated) are listed on other licenses.

Personnel List

Other Licenses

[Personnel](#)

[Other Licenses](#)

Debris Removal

The following is an outline of CSLB license requirements for disaster debris removal:

Type of License Required	Situation
No CSLB License Required	Removal/Hauling of fire debris that is not affixed to the structure
“C-21” Building Moving/Demolition Contractor	Appropriate for debris removal when parts of or an entire structure (walls, chimney, etc.) must be taken out or removed
“A” General Engineering Contractor	Appropriate if the debris removal requires specialized skill and knowledge
“B” General Building Contractor	Appropriate only if the contracted work includes construction of a new dwelling
“C-61/D-64” Non-Specialized Limited Specialty Contractor	Debris removal where the structure is intact, but has smoke damage that requires minor drywall, flooring, and non-structural carpentry removal to perform smoke damage cleaning
“C-61/D-49” Tree Service Contractor or “C-27” Landscape Contractor	Tree Removal