

CHAPTER 2021-110

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 823

An act relating to alarm system contractors; amending s. 489.521, F.S.; providing that advertisements for alarm system contracting do not have to include the contractor's registration or certification number under certain circumstances; amending s. 553.7921, F.S.; authorizing a contractor to begin repairing a specified fire alarm system under certain conditions; providing that a repaired fire alarm system is not compliant with applicable codes and standards until certain conditions are met; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section 489.521, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

489.521 Business organizations; qualifying agents.—

(7)

(b) The registration or certification number of a contractor shall be stated in each offer of services, business proposal, or advertisement, regardless of medium, used by that contractor. For the purposes of this part, the term "advertisement" does not include business stationery or any promotional novelties such as balloons, pencils, trinkets, or articles of clothing. This paragraph does not apply to a newspaper, magazine, flyer, billboard, phone book, Internet, or broadcast advertisement for alarm system contracting as long as the contractor maintains an Internet website that contains the contractor's registration or certification number and the advertisement directs consumers to the contractor's Internet website.

(c) The board shall assess a fine of not less than \$100 or issue a citation to any contractor who fails to include that contractor's certification or registration number when submitting an advertisement for publication, broadcast, or printing. In addition, any person who claims in any advertisement to be a certified or registered contractor, but who does not hold a valid state certification or registration, commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 2. Section 553.7921, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

553.7921 Fire alarm permit application to local enforcement agency.—

(1) A contractor must file a Uniform Fire Alarm Permit Application as provided in subsection (2) with the local enforcement agency and must receive the fire alarm permit before:

(a) installing or replacing a fire alarm if the local enforcement agency requires a plan review for the installation or replacement. If the local enforcement agency requires a fire alarm permit in order to repair; ~~or~~

~~(b) Repairing an existing alarm system that was previously permitted by the local enforcement agency, a contractor must file a Uniform Fire Alarm Permit Application as provided in subsection (2) but may begin work before receiving the permit if the local enforcement agency requires a fire alarm permit for the repair. A repaired fire alarm system is not in compliance with applicable codes and standards until the required permit has been issued and the local enforcement agency has approved the repair.~~

(2) A Uniform Fire Alarm Permit Application must be submitted with any drawing, plan, and supporting documentation required by a local enforcement agency for a project for which a plan review or fire alarm permit is required under subsection (1). The application may be submitted electronically or by facsimile and must be signed by the owner, or the owner’s authorized representative, and the contractor, or the contractor’s agent. The application must contain the following information, in a substantially similar form:

UNIFORM FIRE ALARM
PERMIT APPLICATION

Tax Folio No..... Application No.....

Owner’s or Representative’s Name

Property Address

City..... State..... Zip.....

Phone Number.....

Fee Simple Titleholder’s Name (if other than owner)
.....

Fee Simple Titleholder’s Address (if other than owner)
.....

Description of Work
.....

New Install..... Replacement.....
Addition..... Other.....

Construction Type

Proposed Use

Alarm Contractor’s Name

Alarm Contractor’s Address

City..... State..... Zip.....

Phone Number.....

Alarm Contractor’s License
Number.....

Application is hereby made to obtain a permit to do the work or installation as indicated. I certify that ~~no work or installation has commenced before the filing of this permit application and that~~ all of the foregoing information is true and accurate.

...(Signature of Owner or Owner’s Representative)...

Printed Name.....

...(Signature of Contractor or Agent)...

Printed Name.....

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

Approved by the Governor June 16, 2021.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 16, 2021.