



How To Avoid Construction Scams After a Natural Disaster

- High Pressure Sales
 - Pray on Emotions
 - Special price if you sign up today
 - Or Price sounds too good to be true
 - FEMA approved list of contractors - DOES NOT EXIST
- Payment
 - Don't pay upfront
 - Accepts only cash
 - Check in personal name not business name
 - Needs money to “hold your spot in line”
- Paperwork
 - Written Line Item Bid
 - Contract
 - Insurance - Liability & Workers Comp
 - License, if required (GC, Elec, Plumb, HVAC)
 - GC License not required in all states
 - Mold remediation is required
 - Not required for cleanup jobs makes it harder
 - Permits
- Verify the Contractor
 - Website
 - Phone number and street address
 - Call the office, speak with people
 - Check references
- Documentation
 - TONS of Photos and Video
 - Before
 - During
 - After
 - When in doubt, capture it
 - Organize by stage of the job / room in the house / date
 - This will make life easier down the road

Verification Agencies:

- Better Business Bureau: <https://www.bbb.org/en/us/>
- National Center for the Prevention of Home Improvement Fraud:
 - 404-902-6100
 - <http://new.ncphif.org>
- Texas Licenses: <https://www.license.state.tx.us/licenses.htm>
- Florida Licenses: <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/>