

For immediate release:  
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For more information:  
Roseanne Nelson, (503) 378-5324

## **State files cease-and-desist order against Corvallis company**

(Corvallis) The Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services, Building Codes Division has issued a cease-and-desist order against Federal Security Inc., which has been doing work in Linn and Benton counties without proper licenses and permits.

Federal Security's electrical contractor license expired in October 2002, but since then it has done electrical work on several fire alarm systems in Philomath and Corvallis. The company owner, James B. Cates Sr., and his son, James B. Cates Jr., also face individual charges for making electrical installations without licenses. Electricians must be licensed to work in Oregon.

Federal Security has been fined more than \$23,000. DCBS' Building Codes Division fined the company a total of \$15,750 in September for several code violations that occurred from 2003 and 2005. Federal Security then was fined an additional \$8,000 in January for installing electrical wiring for a fire alarm system in Corvallis without a license or permit. The Building Codes Division filed the cease-and-desist order Jan. 24.

DCBS' Building Codes Division believes Federal Security still may be in business and doing electrical work despite the cease-and-desist order. Anyone with information about the company should call Roseanne Nelson, assistant manager/senior enforcement officer, enforcement and licensing, for the Building Codes Division, (503) 378-5324.

"Doing electrical work without a license is a serious offense," Nelson said. "An improperly installed electrical system can cause injury, death, or major property loss. Property owners should not put themselves at risk by hiring an unlicensed contractor."

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