
Director's Office, 350 Winter St. NE, Room 200, Salem, Oregon 97301-3878

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

State issues cease-and-desist order against Pendleton contractor

(Salem) — The Department of Consumer & Business Services, Building Codes Division, has issued a cease-and-desist order against Ronald Harral and his two Pendleton companies, directing him to immediately stop violating state building codes and rules.

Harral, doing business as Ron's Stoves & Spa and Ron's Heating and Air, has been operating for several years without proper licenses. He has failed to obtain the necessary permits for projects and recently installed a boiler that did not meet minimum safety standards. The violations have occurred in Pendleton, Pilot Rock, and Baker City.

The cease-and-desist order was issued April 14; Harral has 20 days from that date to request a hearing.

This is not the first time Harral has been warned about code and rule violations. The Building Codes Division fined him \$8,000 in January 2005 for making several installations without the proper licenses and permits. At that time, Harral signed a consent order stating there would be no further violations.

But Harral ignored the consent order. In January 2006, he installed a boiler that violated safety standards, and in February 2006 he connected a heat pump for a customer without the proper electrical licenses and without obtaining an electrical or mechanical permit.

“Not only has Ronald Harral violated the law by working without the appropriate licenses and permits, but he has put consumers at great risk by not adhering to safety standards,” said Roseanne Nelson, assistant manager/senior enforcement officer, enforcement and licensing, for the Building Codes Division.

DCBS' Building Codes Division believes Harral may still be conducting business illegally despite the cease-and-desist order. Anyone with information about the company should call Nelson at (503) 378-5324.

BCD urges consumers to do business only with licensed contractors. To check whether a contractor is licensed, call the division at (503) 378-4133 or go to <http://bcd.oregon.gov>.

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