

April 15, 2011

Advice from the Town of Prosper on choosing a contractor

- Look for an established, licensed, or bonded roofer and request references.
- Ask to see certificates of insurance to be sure both liability and workers compensation insurance coverage is carried, and are in force during the time the roofing work is being done.
- Insist on a detailed, written estimate clearly stating the quantity of materials needed (labor charges; work specifications) which include approximate starting and completion dates; payment procedures and that any necessary building permits are secured.
- Carefully review and understand any warranty, and watch for conditions that would void it.
- Use caution (ask questions) before accepting a bid substantially lower than other bids covering the same repair work.
- Contact your local Better Business Bureau to check for complaints filed against the contractor.
- You may also contact your National Roofing Contractors Association for assistance in locating a professional contractor in a specific geographic area at 1-800-USA-ROOF or 1-800-872-7663 or go to www.nrca.net.
- By Town ordinance, all solicitors must have a permit issued by the Police Department. Permits are issued after a background check is conducted by the Police Department.
- The permit has a prominent Police Department logo on it, and residents should be cautious of solicitors and ask to see proper ID and permit.
- Door to door solicitors and persons handing out fliers and handbills are required to obtain a permit.
- Call 9-1-1 if suspicious activity is observed, Police Dispatch keeps a current log of solicitors.