

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION CODES  
BOARD OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDERS AND MAINTENANCE  
AND ALTERATION CONTRACTORS

In the Matter of

C. MORRIS CONSTRUCTION, L.L.C.,  
Unlicensed

Complaint No. 21-18-336608

NOTICE AND ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, by Keith Lambert, Director of the Bureau of Construction Codes, pursuant to authority under the Occupational Code, MCL 339.101 *et seq.*, orders C. Morris Construction, L.L.C., (Respondent) to cease and desist from engaging in or attempting to engage in providing Residential Builders and Maintenance and Alteration Contractors services without possessing a Residential Builders and Maintenance and Alteration Contractors license in violation of the Code.

The Department received a complaint and conducted an investigation in accordance with sections 501 through 504 of the Code. The investigation revealed that Respondent violated section 601(1) of the Code for the following reasons:

1. Respondent does not possess a license under Article 24 of the Code.
2. On or about October 19, 2017, Charles Edward Morris<sup>1</sup> (residential builder license number 21-01-214528) entered into a remodeling agreement with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to perform work on the property located at [REDACTED]

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<sup>1</sup> Morris is subject to a Formal Complaint in Complaint No. 21-18-335889 for the underlying conduct set forth herein.

██████████, Dowagiac, Michigan. The agreement amount was for \$12,500.00 and the work to be done on the ██████████ property included work on the front entry, flooring, paint, windows, the kitchen and roof.

3. Morris and the ██████████ signed the agreement on October 19, 2017.

Morris signed on behalf of "Chuck Morris Builders." Chuck Morris Builders does not exist as a corporate entity and is not a licensed residential builder in Michigan. The agreement does not set forth Morris' name, license number, and actual business address.

4. The work on the property was to have been completed by the summer of 2018 and was not done. The ██████████ made various direct payments to Morris between October 25, 2017 and March 5, 2018 totaling \$16,509.62. The ██████████ also made a March 24, 2018 payment of \$1,000.00 and a March 27, 2018 payment of \$1,500.00 to Morris. In total, the ██████████ paid Morris \$19,009.62 for the remodel work.

5. The business card Morris provided to the ██████████ at the time of the agreement shows "C. Morris Construction L.L.C." on the header and "Chuck Morris" is listed as the owner – residential builder. Morris' license number does not appear on the business card nor does his actual business address. Morris used Respondent as an unlicensed company to perform the remodeling work on the subject property.

6. Change orders for the work to be done were neither written nor signed by Morris and the ██████████.

7. Respondent engaged in or attempted to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated under the Code without possessing a license issued by the Department, contrary to section 601(1) of the Code.

Section 506 of the Code authorizes the Department to issue a cease and desist order as follows:

(1) After an investigation has been conducted, the director may order a person to cease and desist from a violation of this act or a rule promulgated or an order issued under this act.

(2) A person ordered to cease and desist shall be entitled to a hearing before the department if a written request for a hearing is filed within 30 days after the effective date of the order.

(3) Upon a violation of a cease and desist order issued under this act, the department of the attorney general may apply in the circuit court of this state to restrain and enjoin, temporarily or permanently, or both, a person from further violating a cease and desist order.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from engaging in or attempting to engage in practicing as a residential builder without possessing a license issued by the Department in violation of the Occupational Code.

RESPONDENT IS ADVISED that violations of the Code may lead to administrative, civil, and criminal sanctions.

RESPONDENT IS FURTHER ADVISED that under section 601(6) of the Code, a person not licensed under Article 24 of the Code as a residential builder or a residential maintenance and alteration contractor who violates 601(1) or (2) may be subject to the following criminal penalties:

(a) In the case of a first offense, a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$5,000.00 or more than \$25,000.00, or imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both.

(b) In the case of a second or subsequent offense, a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$5,000.00 or more than \$25,000.00, or imprisonment for not more than 2 years, or both.

(c) In the case of an offense that causes death or serious injury, a felony punishable by a fine of not less than \$5,000.00 or more than \$25,000.00, or imprisonment for not more than 4 years, or both.

RESPONDENT IS FURTHER ADVISED that the Department will refer this matter to the Michigan Department of Attorney General for review and possible action against Respondent, which may include criminal and administrative sanctions.

Pursuant to section 506(2) of the Code, Respondent is entitled to a hearing before a hearings examiner if Respondent files a written request for a hearing within 30 days after the effective date of this order. The written request for a hearing shall be submitted to the Bureau of Construction Codes, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, P.O. Box 30670, Lansing, Michigan 48909. Failure to file a timely written request for hearing will waive Respondent's right to a hearing, and this order will become final.

This order shall take effect on the date signed as set forth below.

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND  
REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Date: 1-13-2020

Keith Lambert  
By: Keith Lambert  
Director  
Bureau of Construction Codes

LF: 2018-0237889-A/C. Morris Construction/ Cease and Desist/ 2019-12-05