Did your contractor tell you whether he or she carries Commercial General Liability Insurance?

Contractors building single-family residences for owners who intend to occupy the home for at least a year are required by law to tell you whether or not they carry Commercial General Liability Insurance. This written statement must accompany the contract.

What does this insurance cover?

Commercial General Liability Insurance can protect against third-party bodily injury and accidental property damage. It is not intended to cover the work the contractor performs.

Is this insurance required?

No. But the Contractors State License Board strongly recommends that all contractors carry it. The Board cautions you to evaluate the risk to your family and property when you hire a contractor who is not insured. Ask yourself, if something went wrong, would this contractor be able to cover losses ordinarily covered by insurance?

How can you make sure the contractor is insured?

If he or she is insured, your contractor is required to provide you with the name and telephone number of the insurance company. Check with the insurance company to verify that the contractor’s insurance coverage will cover your project.

What about a contractor who is self-insured?

A self-insured contractor has made a business decision to be personally responsible for losses that would ordinarily be covered by insurance. Before contracting with a self-insured contractor, ask yourself, if something went wrong, would this contractor be able to cover losses ordinarily covered by insurance?

☐ ______________________________ does not carry Commercial General Liability Insurance.
   (CONTRACTOR’S NAME)

☐ ______________________________ carries Commercial General Liability Insurance.
   (CONTRACTOR’S NAME)

The insurance company is ____________________________________________.
   (COMPANY NAME)

You may call the insurance company at _____________________ to verify coverage.
   (TELEPHONE NUMBER)

For more information about Commercial General Liability Insurance, contact the Contractors State License Board at www.cslb.ca.gov or call 800-321-CSLB (2752).