

## Contractor Registration Information

### Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act 132 Effective July 1, 2009

#### What is the Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act?

- The law affords protection for consumers who hire contractors to perform home improvements on their residential properties.
- The law requires written contracts between the contractor and consumer when the total cash price of all work agreed upon exceeds \$500.
- The law provides criminal penalties for home improvement fraud and civil penalties for violations of the act.
- **The law is effective July 1, 2009.**

#### Who must register?

- Contractors who perform home improvements in Pennsylvania for which the total cash value of the contractor's home improvements is \$5,000 or more per year.
- Contractors must register with the Office of Attorney General and pay a non-refundable application fee of \$50 renewable every two years.
- Register online at [www.attorneygeneral.gov](http://www.attorneygeneral.gov) for faster processing of the application. Along with the application you can view the Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act and a list of Frequently Asked Questions.
- The information will also be made available upon written request or by calling the Bureau of Consumer Protection at 717-772-2425. Paper applications will be accepted and should be mailed to: Office of Attorney General, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Strawberry Square, Harrisburg, PA 17120, Attn: Home Improvement Contractors Registration.

#### What should I expect after registration?

- Upon submission of a completed application that has been approved by the Office of Attorney General, a contractor will receive a certificate and wallet card with a registration number.
- A contractor shall include his/her registration number in all advertisements, contracts, estimates and proposals with consumers in the Commonwealth.
- Consumers will be encouraged to contact the Bureau of Consumer Protection by visiting [www.attorneygeneral.gov](http://www.attorneygeneral.gov) or by calling a toll free phone number to check the status of the registration of a contractor.