



Safety Tips: *CONTRACTING SCAMS*

Milwaukee County Sheriff David A. Clarke Jr. warns citizens to beware of unscrupulous contractors. It is not uncommon after a disaster like we recently experienced to have fly-by-night contractors prey on people who are in an emotional, traumatized state after an incident such as severe basement flooding. Our advice is to make sure that the contractor is bonded. You may want to check with the Better Business Bureau, (414) 847-6000, for a reference.

Safety Tips:

- Do not let anyone into your home soliciting basement work, waterproofing, mold detection, etc., that you have not called and who shows up unsolicited.
- Beware of scare tactics and pressure tactics. For example: “Your basement walls will collapse in the next hour if you don’t have it replaced.”
- Ask for identification. Reputable contractors will carry identification with them.
- Get a second estimate from a reputable contractor.
- Never do business with any contractor who:
 1. Is requiring full payment before the work begins.
 2. That will only take cash. Reputable contractors will take credit cards or a payment plan.