

Transient Vendors are back in South Dakota for another season



Most of the transient vendors who visit our state are legitimate. Some are not. Here are

THREE SIMPLE STEPS

to keep in mind if you are considering hiring a transient vendor to do repairs for construction, asphaltting or roofing services, or you're thinking of buying household cleaners, rugs, food, housewares, or magazine subscriptions from an out-of-state vendor:

Step #1: Ask

- For a price quote in advance, in writing.
- If they have a permanent address and phone number. If the information is local, do not assume they are local. Some transient vendors have business cards printed with a local mailing service or motel address and number.
- About the product, warranties & guarantees.
- To see their current South Dakota tax license. They **MUST** have one to do business in our state!

Step #2: Verify

- Get a list of local references and **CHECK THEM** before making a decision.
- Get something in writing with the company's name, address and phone number.
- Find out if they have workman's compensation and general liability insurance. If they do not, **YOU** could be liable for accidents that occur on your property.
- Be careful about paying for work in advance and do not pay more than originally quoted unless you have given written approval for the additional work or cost.

Step #3: Report

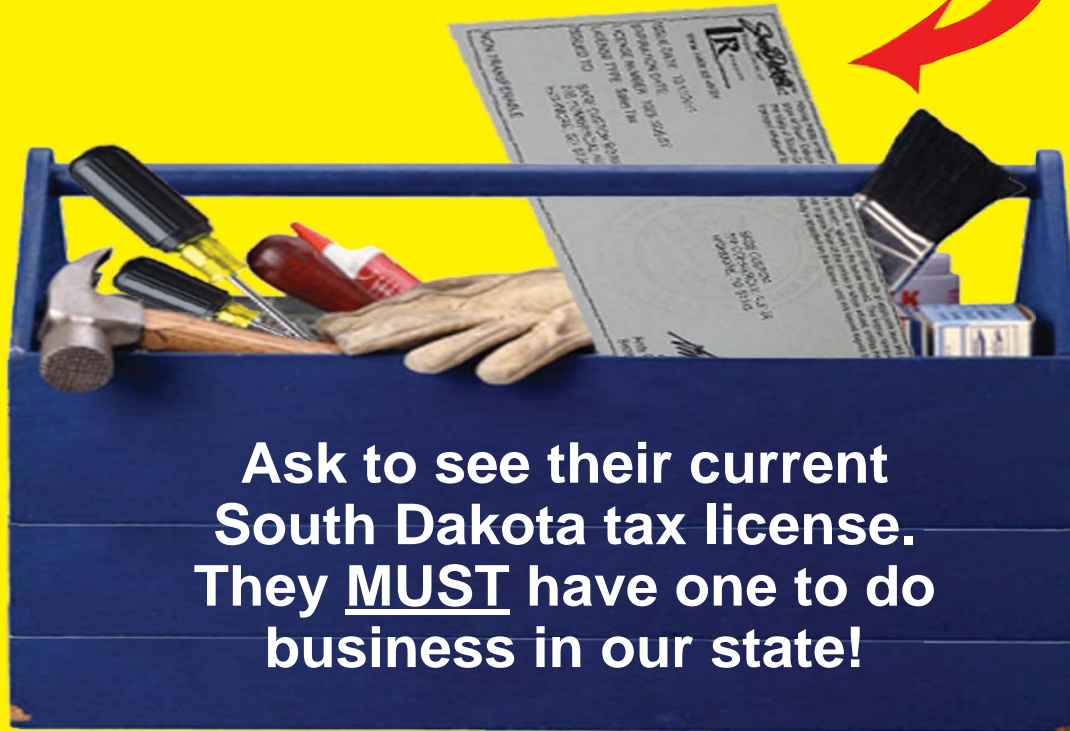
- If you have doubts about the vendor or think you are a victim of a scam, contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Office at:
1-800-300-1986
 or by email at:
consumerhelp@state.sd.us
 You can also contact your local police department or county sheriff's office. Be prepared to give as much information as you can about the vendor, including the name of the company and salesperson; company address and telephone number; and make, model, and license plate (if possible) of the vehicle the vendor was driving.

ALL sellers must provide you with a contract or receipt at the time of sale showing the date, merchant's name and address, and a statement informing you of your right to cancel the contract within three days. After proper cancellation, the seller has 10 days to refund your money!

For more information on transient vendors, contact the South Dakota Department of Revenue at 1-800-829-9188

Thinking about hiring a transient vendor to do repairs or construction on your home or business?

Make sure they have **THIS**
in their toolbox



Ask to see their current
South Dakota tax license.
They **MUST** have one to do
business in our state!

**Transient Vendors are back
in South Dakota for another season.
While most of them are legitimate,
some of them aren't.**

Are out-of-state vendors trying to sell you household cleaners, rugs, food, housewares, magazine subscriptions, asphaltting or roofing services?

Asking the right questions when approached by those vendors can help you avoid making a purchase you may regret. Remember to:

- ✓ Get a price quote, in advance, in writing.
- ✓ Ask if they have a permanent address and phone number.
- ✓ Get a list of local references and CHECK THEM before making a decision.
- ✓ Be careful about paying for work in advance.
- ✓ Get something in writing with the company's name, address & phone number.
- ✓ Ask the salesperson about the product warranties, guarantees, etc.
- ✓ Find out if they have workman's compensation and general liability insurance. If they don't, YOU could be liable for accidents that occur on your property!
- ✓ Make sure you're completely satisfied with the work before paying the bill, and don't pay more for the job than originally quoted unless you've given written approval for the additional work or cost.

ALL sellers must provide you with a contract or receipt at the time of sale showing the date, merchant's name and address, and a statement informing you of your right to cancel the contract within three days. After proper cancellation, the seller has 10 days to refund your money!

Have doubts about the vendor or think you may have been scammed? Contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Office at **1-800-300-1986** or by email at consumerhelp@state.sd.us. You can also contact your local police department or county sheriff's office. Be prepared to give as much information as you can about the vendor, including the name of the company and salesperson; company address and telephone number; and make, model and license number (if possible) of the vehicle the vendor was driving.

Without tips from the public, law enforcement officials may not be able to catch illegal vendors before they move on to the next community.

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