

Media Release

For general release

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Project manager pleads guilty to home renovation charges

A woman has been convicted and fined \$15,000 at the Ringwood Magistrates' Court after being charged by the Victorian Building Authority for illegally managing building work on two home renovation projects in Croydon North.

Ms Michelle Hosking plead guilty to twelve charges which included carrying out building work without building permits and insurance, not being registered, receiving over the legal 5 per cent deposit, entering into a major domestic building contract when not registered and not providing a compliant domestic building contract.

Both homeowners were severely affected by Ms Hosking's behaviour. One of the homeowners paid \$124,000 more than the original contracted price for the renovations.

VBA Director of Compliance and Performance Murray Smith said anyone carrying out building work in Victoria must comply with the *Building Regulations 2006* and *Building Act 1993*. "This helps ensure buildings are safe and constructed to a high standard. It also provides consumers with assurance that their building work is carried out by a professional who has the required skills and knowledge."

"In Victoria, anyone carrying out domestic building work that costs more than \$5000 must be a registered builder, and they must have the required insurance if the work costs more than \$16,000".

"Anyone who is unsure about what work they can carry out and what permits they require should contact the VBA or their local council for advice", Mr Smith said.

For more information on requirements around building practitioners and registrations, visit the VBA website www.vba.vic.gov.au

ENDS

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