Media Release

VBA – Be alert to unregistered practitioner activity

Following the successful prosecution of an unregistered building inspector in the East Gippsland area the Victorian Building Authority has highlighted the need to only use registered practitioners.

“The VBA regularly meets with industry stakeholders and understands that building practitioners are professionals who don’t want the reputation of their industry undermined by people who are not qualified,” said VBA CEO Prue Digby.

“In our recent prosecution in the Latrobe Valley Magistrates Court, East Gippsland woman Fiona Jago, pleaded guilty to 250 counts of practising as an unregistered building inspector and was fined a total of $23,993.

“Anyone involved in a building or plumbing project deserves to be confident in the builders and plumbers they engage. It is in the best interests of practitioners and consumers that only registered practitioners are used.

“Always check that your practitioner is registered is our key message to consumers.

“All building inspections must be carried out by a registered building practitioner. And if they are not, the VBA can prosecute through the court system as we did with Fiona Jago.

“The VBA website carries registration details of all practitioners so it is easy to verify their registrations are current and that they are appropriately qualified to conduct the tasks for which they are being employed.

“If practitioners find anyone offering to provide services without being registered, or you suspect they may have a registration issue, you can contact the VBA via the website or by phone on 1300 815 127."

Details of all Registered Building Practitioners are available on the VBA website at: www.vba.vic.gov.au

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