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## TDLR Investigators Find 74 Potential Violations During License Enforcement Action in Laredo Area

AUSTIN – During a recent one-week undercover sting in the Laredo area, investigators from the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) found a total of 74 alleged violations and opened 25 enforcement cases, mostly against unlicensed electricians and air conditioning and refrigeration contractors who offered to perform unlicensed work.

During the sting, TDLR investigators contacted people who advertised electrical and air conditioning services in local newspapers or on social media and did not include license information in the ads as they're required to do by state law. Those contacted reported to a location to offer bids to perform work.

TDLR urges Texas consumers hiring electricians and air conditioning and refrigeration contractors to always check to make sure their service providers are licensed by TDLR. Consumers can check the TDLR website (www.tdlr.texas.gov) to make sure the contractor is licensed.

"When hiring an electrical contractor or air conditioning contractor, it's so important to make sure they are licensed by TDLR. Licensed service providers have completed training and passed examinations that cover regulations and building codes designed to protect health and safety. They've also had criminal background checks and have liability insurance," said Courtney Arbour, TDLR Executive Director.

## About TDLR

TDLR provides regulatory oversight for a broad range of occupations, businesses, facilities, and equipment in Texas. The agency protects the health and safety of Texans by ensuring they are served by qualified, licensed professionals. Inspections of individuals, businesses, and equipment are done on a regular basis to safeguard the public. Currently, the agency regulates 38 business and occupational licensing programs with almost 1,000,000 licensees across the state.

Visit TDLR's <u>website</u> for more information and resources. You can search the <u>TDLR licensee database</u>, and also find <u>past violations</u> in which a final order was issued against companies or individuals. TDLR's Customer Service line is available anytime between 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 1-800-803-9202. TDLR representatives are fluent in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.