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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Houston Man Prohibited From Providing Illegal Electrical and Air Conditioning Services in Texas

AUSTIN – A Travis County State District Court issued a Permanent Injunction against a Houston man that prohibits him from providing, or offering to provide, unlicensed electrical and air conditioning contracting in and around the Houston area. If violated, the man may face a finding of contempt and the possibility of penalties and/or jail time imposed by the Court.

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation sought District Court intervention against Danny Bryan Smith, who operates under the company names of “Bryan’s HVAC Air Conditioning” and “Bryan’s HVAC Repair,” after Smith ignored repeated attempts to stop him from performing unlicensed activity.

TDLR had issued three agency orders commanding Smith to immediately stop bidding on, or performing, unlicensed electrical and air conditioning work. The agency orders also had imposed \$47,000 in penalties against Smith for repeated instances of working without the required license. The orders included:

- A July 2012 default order resulting from three investigations into consumer and industry complaints of unlicensed air conditioning and electrical contracting, as well as a TDLR sting operation in which Smith submitted a bid for non-exempt electrical and air conditioning work. The default order resulted in a \$16,000 penalty and the issuance of a cease and desist to immediately stop performing, or offering to perform, electrical contracting.
- A June 2016 default order resulting from four investigations into industry complaints that Smith was performing, or offering to perform, air conditioning and electrical work. The default order resulted in a \$25,000 penalty and a cease and desist to immediately stop performing, or offering to perform, air conditioning contracting.
- An August 2017 default order resulting from two investigations into industry complaints that Smith continued advertising for non-exempt air conditioning and electrical work. The default order resulted in a \$6,000 penalty.

Despite the agency orders, Smith continued bidding on and performing electrical and air conditioning work for unsuspecting Texas consumers. Between December 2018 and January 2019, TDLR investigators found at least three more instances of Smith continuing to advertise air conditioning services on Craigslist. In April

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2019, Smith was netted in a TDLR sting after submitting a written bid offering to perform air conditioning services for a TDLR investigator posing as a consumer.

The District Court's Permanent Injunction prohibits Smith from performing, or offering to perform, air conditioning contracting anywhere in Texas without a license. It also prohibits him from performing, or offering to perform, electrical contracting anywhere in the state without a license or without prior written approval from TDLR to perform electrical work that is exempted from licensure under the Texas Occupations Code. Additionally, the Court issued a \$10,000 civil penalty against Smith for the April 2019 unlicensed activity.

"Mr. Smith's behavior was ongoing and posed a significant threat to the health, safety, and well-being of Texas consumers," said Brian E. Francis, TDLR Executive Director. "TDLR will do what it needs to do to protect Texans from shoddy or dangerous work, and that includes pursuing bad actors in state district court."

TDLR maintains a public list of people whose licenses have been revoked, who have received cease-and-desist orders, or who have permanent injunctions issued against them, so that consumers can protect themselves against using unlicensed work activities. To see ALL violations, including license revocations, suspensions, and fines, search TDLR's Administrative Orders database (<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/cimsfo/fosearch.asp>).

To report unlicensed activity, file a complaint online: <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/complaints/>.

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 more than 1,000,000 licensees across the state.

Visit TDLR's [website](#) for more information and resources. You can search the [TDLR licensee database](#), and also find [past violations](#) in which a final order was issued against companies or individuals. TDLR's Customer Service line is available anytime between 7 a.m. until 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 1-800-803-9202. TDLR representatives are fluent in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean and Mandarin.

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