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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TDLR obtains permanent injunction against unlicensed air conditioning contractor *Victor Reed has provided unlicensed services in Austin and Houston*

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) has obtained a permanent injunction in state District Court against Victor L. Reed, d/b/a “Home King Air Conditioning Services”, “AC Repair Today”, “Houston AC Fix” and “VL Reed Unlimited”, for providing unlicensed air conditioning and contracting services in the Houston and Austin areas.

Reed has advertised and provided air conditioning installation and repair without a license for at least five years despite multiple warnings and administrative penalties issued by the Department. He has also repeatedly misrepresented that he is licensed by using a license number that does not belong to him.

Prior to seeking the permanent injunction in state District Court, TDLR conducted extensive investigations into consumer complaints and pursued Mr. Reed in administrative proceedings. These cases include:

- In October 2015, TDLR issued a default order against Reed for performing or offering to perform air conditioning contracting without a license. In those cases, Reed was providing contracting services as “VL Reed Unlimited” and “V-Reed Pro”. He was also advertising in local periodicals and on Facebook using a contractor license number that did not belong to him. The default order assessed \$10,000 in penalties against Reed, and he has yet to pay the penalty.
- In March 2017, TDLR issued a second default order against Reed for performing or offering to perform air conditioning contracting under the name “Home King Air Conditioning Services”. The default order assessed \$5,000 in penalties against Reed, and he has yet to make any payments.
- In 2018, TDLR opened seven additional cases against Reed, who at that point was providing services as “VL Reed Unlimited” (Home King) and continuing to use a license number that did not belong to him. Reed also continued advertising his services on various Facebook pages.

The District Court issued a permanent injunction, which became final in November 2020, that bars Reed and any of his employees or representatives from advertising, offering to perform or engaging in air conditioning and refrigeration contracting without a license. The injunction also issued \$9,996 in additional

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TDLR Customer Service | (512) 463-6599 | Toll-Free (in Texas) | (800) 803-9202 | Relay Texas-TDD: (800) 735-2989

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penalties against Reed for performing or offering to perform unlicensed air conditioning installation and repair on at least fourteen occasions between 2018 and 2020.

“Consumer safety is a top priority at the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation,” said Brian E. Francis, TDLR Executive Director. “People working in professions and industries without the proper license can pose a risk to your health, your safety, and your wallet. Don’t just assume that your contractor or technician is licensed – always check with TDLR first to make sure the person you hire is on the level.”

Before you hire someone, always check with TDLR (<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/LicenseSearch/>) first to make sure that person is licensed – and that the license number matches the name of the person offering to provide the service. Air conditioning contractors must display their license number on all vehicles and include their license number in all communications with customers. Air conditioning contractors are required to have liability insurance to cover any damages or injuries that might occur when they are working on your property.

TDLR maintains a database so that consumers can protect themselves against using unlicensed workers. To see ALL violations for the previous three years, including license revocations, suspensions, and fines, search TDLR’s Administrative Orders database (<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/cimsfo/fosearch.asp>).

Report unlicensed activity or file a complaint: <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 39 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 and Vietnamese.

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