120418_LEGISLATIVE_PRESENTATION

Steps we have taken to standup a new Contractor Licensing Department under the BCC

Senator Rousson initiated Legislation, SB 0402; companion HB 1197 Peters & Ahern; signed by the Governor on **3/23/2018**, **Effective July 1, 2018**.

What changed ?

- Overhauled Section 12 of the Special Act changing the membership of the Board from 21 to 15 and placing the County Commission in charge of the appointment process.
- Placed term limits on Board members to 2 consecutive 4 year terms with a 2 year hiatus.
- Made the Board a dependent agency of the County, with reporting and audit requirements.
- Required Board members to file financial disclosure forms consistent with statutory requirements for Public Officers and Employees.
- Retained the bulk of the Special Act including enforcement of State Contracting Law.
- **AGENDA** remove residency requirement government. HALF live outside Pinellas County.

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Moved to a new location. 999 Orn Horn OCT Hired new Director, managers, and investigators. Commission has selected 13 Board members.

Answering the phones. Seen a 57% reduction in dropped calls since September.

What has been accomplished since the new special act has been in effect.

Provided continuity of the licensing and registration process. Renewed almost 10,000 contractor and journeymen licenses and registrations with no lines out the door or wrapped around the building.

Responding to complaints quickly. Sometimes the same day.

Jump started enforcement of unlicensed contracting with **610 citations**. Prioritizing complaints systematically.

Reaching out to

Building Departments. Professional organizations Building Departments Citizens Department of Revenue I.C.E. Other licensing agencies.

Partnering with

Sheriff's Office State Attorney's Office Consumer Protection

Updating and Creating Marketing Materials in both English and Spanish.

Improving processes, eliminating unnecessary steps, skipping paperwork going directly to electronic whenever we can.

Focusing of unlicensed contracting.

Feb 2018 a news article stated that Sheriff Gualtieri blamed the problem of unlicensed contractors on a lack of enforcement by the PCCLB.

Prior to September the average was 24 citations a month.

Monthly citation average is now 178 per month. October was over 200.

52 fy 2017 59 fy 2016 83 fy 2015 93 fy 2014 96 fy 2013 (peak) 44 fy 2010 **17 fy 2004 (STARTED) new practice from sending to LOV court.**

End of November 610 Citations, 178 same period last year. 480 Snipe Signs, up 75% in November.

Expired Permits.