

## What is the Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act?

- The law affords protections for consumers who hire contractors to perform home improvements on their residential properties.
- The law requires written contracts between the contractor and consumer when the total cash price of all work agreed upon exceeds \$500.
- The law provides criminal penalties for home improvement fraud and civil penalties for violations of the act.
- The law is effective July 1 , 2009.

### Who must register?

- Contractors who perform home improvements in Pennsylvania for which the total cash value of the contractor's home improvements is \$5,000 or more per year .
- Contractors must register with the Office of Attorney General and pay a non-refundable application fee of \$50 renewable every two years.

## How can I register as a Home Improvement Contractor?

- Contractors are required to be registered by July 1, 2009.
- The Home Improvement Contractor Application is available on the Attorney General's website [www.attorneygeneral.gov](http://www.attorneygeneral.gov).
- **Contractors are encouraged to register online for faster processing of the application.**
- Paper applications will be accepted and should be mailed to:  
Office of Attorney General  
15th Floor, Strawberry Square  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
ATTN: Home Improvement Contractors Registration

## What should I expect after I register?

- Upon submission of a completed application that has been approved by the Office of Attorney General, a contractor will receive a certificate and wallet card with registration number.
- A Contractor shall include his/her registration number in all advertisements, contracts, estimates and proposals with consumers in the Commonwealth.
- Consumers will be encouraged to contact the Bureau of Consumer Protection by visiting [www.attorneygeneral.gov](http://www.attorneygeneral.gov) or by calling a toll free phone number to check the status of the registration of a *contractor*.

## **Where can I obtain further information about the law and registration?**

- Along with the application for registration and instructions, the Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act and a list of Frequently Asked Questions can be viewed on the website [www.attorneygeneral.gov](http://www.attorneygeneral.gov).
- The information will also be made available upon written request or by calling the Bureau of Consumer Protection at 717-772-2425.
- In order to comply with the provisions of the law, contractors are encouraged to read the law carefully.
- If you are a member of a professional contractors' organization, you may want to contact them for assistance.

**Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General  
Strawberry Square  
Harrisburg, PA 17120**