

# Media Release

30 December 2016

## Public Warning on unlicensed SA builder

A public warning has been issued by the State's consumer watchdog against **Anastasios (Tom) Manolakis**, following allegations of operating as an unlicensed builder in South Australia.

Acting Commissioner for Consumer Affairs, George Kamencak, said complaints lodged with Consumer and Business Services (CBS) allege that Mr Manolakis' work is also not of an acceptable building work standard.

"It is alleged Mr Manolakis, trading as **De George Services**, has been contracting for building work without being authorised by the appropriate licence in South Australia," he said.

"The business, based at Clovelly Park, advertises its services for roofing, guttering, earthmoving, bricklaying and stone work, through its website [www.degeorge.com.au](http://www.degeorge.com.au) and on Gumtree."

People who carry on business performing building work, including all forms of roofing work, are required to be licensed under the *Building Work Contractors Act*.

Undertaking unlicensed building work carries penalties of up to:

- \$50,000 for a first or second offence; or
- \$50,000 or 12 months imprisonment or both for a third or subsequent offence
- \$250,000 for an offence committed by a body corporate.

The Acting Commissioner is urging consumers not to deal with Mr Manolakis or De George Services while complaints are being investigated by CBS.

"With winter officially behind us, many people take time off work throughout the Christmas break to undertake home renovations. This is a friendly reminder for consumers to do their research before engaging a tradesperson to undertake work on their homes.

"Please ensure you are using a licensed and reputable building contractor who is qualified to do the job. You can check if a tradesperson has a current licence by using the online [CBS licensing register](#) or by asking them to produce their South Australian builder's licence card."

"CBS takes consumer complaints seriously and regulates the industry to protect consumers and stamp out illegal conduct."

If anyone has concerns or would like to make a complaint about their dealings with Mr Manolakis or De George Services, please contact CBS on 131 882.