

Contractors in PA: Your home address will be public information!

Short overview:

- New Pa. law - Contractors have to be registered with the state.
- If no business address then it requires disclosure of your home address

Response: Contact your state Representative and Senator and complain.

Find them at: www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/find.cfm

Why: What about the security of your family, home, tools, right to privacy, etc.?

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There is a new law for those of us in Pennsylvania that goes into effect beginning this July. You now have to be licensed by the state; however, you must also list your place of business. If you don't have a commercial business address, then you have to list **your home address**. This **will be public information**.

Where do you park your truck with all the tools inside? Most likely at your home.

Where do you store your tools that you don't carry in your truck all the time? Most likely in your home, and/or in a storage garage, and/or in a shed, and/or unprotected on your property.

Ummm, has any one given any thought about the increased security risk to the personal property of the contractor, let alone possibly to his family that this law imposes?

Lets think about this for a minute. Now all that a thief or an unscrupulous "customer" has to do is to get your PA Contractor licensed number, this is required by law to be posted on all advertisements, signs, and any paper work with a customer, look you up by phone or online, and then go tool shopping at your home for your tools. The fact is that you can not be on guard duty all the time.

Now I have already had my tools stolen out of my truck while it was parked in my driveway, and I don't even list my home address! (Oh, by the way, the truck was about 5 feet from my bed room window and I didn't hear a thing.)

I urge you to try to protect yourself and **complain to your state Representative and Senator** about this. I do not mind being registered with the state; however, **I do not believe that our home address should be public information**. Maybe together we can change this.

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Section from the "**PENNSYLVANIA HOME IMPROVEMENT CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT**"

(b) Public access to registration information.--The bureau shall maintain a toll-free telephone number from which a caller can obtain information as to whether a contractor is registered with the bureau pursuant to this act, as well as **information that may be obtained on the bureau's Internet website.**

(c) Confidentiality of personal information.--The bureau shall create a policy for the disclosure of personal information to the public. The bureau may not disclose to the public a contractor's Social Security number, driver's license number or any confidential information prohibited by law from being disclosed, provided that a **contractor's home address and home telephone number shall be disclosed** only if it is also used as the contractor's business address and business telephone number.