



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BIA Hawaii Urges Vigilance Against Contractor Fraud Following Historic Hawaii Flooding

Waipahu, Hawaii (March 23, 2026) – As Hawai‘i begins recovery efforts after the catastrophic state-wide flooding, the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA Hawaii) is urging residents to remain vigilant against fraudulent contractors seeking to exploit vulnerable homeowners.

The storm caused widespread devastation across Hale‘iwa, Waialua, and other communities, leading to large-scale evacuations and significant damage to homes and infrastructure. Described as the island’s most severe flooding event in more than two decades, the disaster underscores the urgent need for trusted, qualified professionals to support rebuilding efforts in the weeks ahead.

BIA Hawaii encourages all residents to thoroughly research contractors before committing to any home repair or rebuilding work, helping to avoid scams, substandard construction, or financial loss.

“Unfortunately, unscrupulous contractors often appear after disasters attempting to take advantage of homeowners either by delivering poor-quality work or disappearing altogether,” said Roseann Freitas, CEO of BIA Hawaii. “Before hiring a contractor, we strongly encourage residents to do their due diligence and verify credentials.”

To help protect homeowners, BIA Hawaii recommends taking the following steps when selecting a contractor:

- **Check the DCCA’s Professional Vocational Licensing website at <https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/>**
- **Contact BIA Hawaii for a list of reputable, qualified contractors**
- **Verify the contractor’s permanent business address, licensing, and reputation**
- **Insist on a complete, clearly written contract before work begins**
- **Ask for references—and avoid paying cash up front**

BIA Hawaii is a National Association of Home Builders–affiliated organization representing the state’s largest network of craftsmen, innovators, and problem-solvers committed to building and enriching Hawai‘i’s communities.

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About the Building Industry Association of Hawaii

The Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA Hawaii) is the voice of the construction industry and Hawaii's leading not-for-profit trade organization chartered by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) in 1955, with more than 300 professional members across the industry including developers, contractors, suppliers, realtors, and associate companies. BIA Hawaii is a proud supporter and advocate of housing at all price points, and our members work together to build the living spaces that kama'aina call home. Together, we educate, advocate, and grow. Industry Elite Partners are Armstrong Builders, Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii, Gentry Homes, Honsador Lumber, and HPM Building Supply. 2026 Corporate Sponsors include Hawaiian Dredging, Haloa Construction, Inspired Closets Hawaii, Lung Rose Voss Wagnild, Hawaiian Electric Company, Howard Hughes Communities and Kapili Roofing and Painting.

Visit www.biahawaii.org to stay informed of industry news and view the membership directory, calendar of events, and our class schedule.

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