

HGRBS Homeowner's Guide Series No.17

Guide Series #17 – Disaster Homeowners On Top Of The Game Part 2 - WILDFIRES

This is the seventeenth installment for the new ongoing HGRBS nonprofit series offering resident-friendly information for home defense. This is particularly so for our increased protection against corrupt building tradespersons working in the home remodeling, repair, and improvement industry.

***Overview**

“For sure, there is nothing quite as marvelous as to be home and to lavish on ourselves all the benefits of it all. But then, hardly anything worse than having to flee its comfort and security in the dead of night because there is a treacherous wildfire nearby threatening to destroy us and our home in a single sweep.”

*From “Roving Phantoms in the Aftermath Of Disaster – WILDFIRES – 2.”

In this seventeenth installment, much emphasis is on making critical decisions towards recovery after the wildfires which ravaged our homes and other property. When we opt to remain in the area, there is no doubt that we are going to require massive assistance towards rebuilding. No doubt many of us will have to rely on both government assistance and whatever coverage we may have to restore our living situation. We may own up to the fact that we will not be able to make things exactly as comfortable living as they were – but we know our effort will lead to at least creating a more palatable circumstance than a tent. We strive to get our lives back from the ashes of the wildfires as close as we possibly can to what - it used to be.

Notwithstanding the fact that there are some things from which we will never recover such loss of life, family photos and other visual memorabilia, irreplaceable furniture and artifacts, etc, we are determined to move forward. There are enormous hurdles ahead but these are not so steep that they cannot be overcome.

Focus

In our quest for normalcy, each related decision we make has to support this objective. Subsequently, when we consider rebuilding or extensive renovation, we are going to need professionals with immense residential credibility. How and when we decide to take on assistance from those working in the building trades will impact results. Evidently, we want to hire only contractors who will aid in our recovery. However, our experience lets us know this is not an easy task. How will we arrive at the most sensible decision? Who will we hire?

When should we do so? There are many questions. Nevertheless, be that as it may, there is one which reigns above all: *How much time are we willing to sacrifice to ensure we make the most reasonable hiring choices?* This question is key in resident-contractor relations.

***Conclusion**

It is found that victims of wildfire or other disaster who apparently have not devoted *significant time* discovering details of a contractor's actual credentials and rapport with homeowners are the most likely "double-jeopardy" victims after the wildfire is gone.

***Five Common Reasons Wildfire Victims Are Successfully Defrauded:**

1. Impulsive decision making fueled by desperation.
2. Trusting individuals we have not first thoroughly checked out.
3. Absence of house rules which mandate time for first conducting thorough background checks in relation to competence for the nature of work, and proven positive relationship with other homeowners.
4. Hiring contractors found online.
5. In aftermath of wildfire, blindly assuming that just because a disaster relief contractor has a FEMA contract that he/she can be trusted.

Note: Even building trades persons with FEMA contract must be thoroughly checked out – by us. We may not be in such a hurry – although we can be led to believe the contractor's arrival means we should put this person to work immediately.

HGRBS nonprofit offers aggressive home-fraud prevention technique which can be useful when we must decide who to hire to help out, especially, with all the damage caused by the wildfire: "Roving Phantoms In The Aftermath Of Disaster – WILDFIRES - 2."

*HGRBS is always glad to hear from you. If you have benefited in some way from this article, please use the "Comment" link below. Response time varies.

Edited with special assistance from J. Anderson

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FEMA Warning And Other Critical Advice

<https://www.fema.gov/about/offices/security/disaster-fraud>

***Roving Phantoms In The Aftermath Of Disaster – WILDFIRES - 2** (Free download):

<https://www.hgrbs-flagship.com/Home-Improvement-Hiring-Guides-For-US-Homeowners.php>

* **Comment:** <https://www.hgrbs-flagship.com>

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