



# Consumer Protection Alert

Service Alberta

## Unlicensed Prepaid Contractor, Alberta-wide

### Name:

- Pitbull Construction Inc.

### Directors:

- Ulysse Jr. Brideau
- Elizabeth Jo-Anne Buit



### Details

Service Alberta's Consumer Investigations Unit is warning Albertans about a home improvement and renovation business, Pitbull Construction Inc., and its directors, **Ulysse Jr. Brideau**, and **Elizabeth Jo-Anne Buit**. Both Brideau and Buit, as well as their business, Pitbull Construction Inc., have been charged with multiple offences under Alberta's consumer protection laws. Brideau and Buit are also facing criminal charges related to fraud and theft.

They are known to:

- Take deposits from consumers without having a proper business licence;
- Take consumer deposits and not complete any work; or take deposits and complete little work;
- Request cash deposits;
- Provide renovation contracts that do not align with consumer protection laws;
- Fail to refund consumers when contracts are cancelled.

### Consumer Tips / Instructions

Prepaid contractors are required to be licensed with Service Alberta. Consumers are strongly encouraged to do their research prior to hiring a contractor for home renovations or repairs. This includes:

- Asking to see municipal and provincial business licences (you can search to determine if a business has a provincial licence at: <https://www.servicealberta.ca/find-if-business-is-licenced.cfm>);
- Checking if a business had any enforcement action taken against it at: <https://www.alberta.ca/lookup/business-enforcement-search-tool.aspx>;
- Reviewing Service Alberta's Home Improvements tipsheet, located on alberta.ca at: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/home-improvements-what-you-need-to-know>

Before you get started on the project with a prepaid contractor, you should:

- Establish the total cost of the project;
- Have a written contract in place that states clear project deliverables and timelines;
- Have a verifiable payment method (cheque, bank draft, e-transfer, etc.).

If you suspect a contractor may not be licensed, is contravening Alberta's consumer protection laws, or is avoiding work commitments, report it at 1-877-427-4088.

### Service Alberta – Consumer Investigations Unit

**Edmonton:** 3rd Floor, Commerce Place, 10155-102 Street, Edmonton AB T5J 4L4

**Calgary:** Suite 301, 7015 Macleod Trail SW, Calgary AB T2H 2K6

**In Edmonton:** 780-427-4088 **Toll-free in Alberta:** 1-877-427-4088

