

Huerfano County Land Use
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Huerfano County Building Authority Board (HCBA) Staff Report

Complaint: A complaint is being made by Huerfano County Building Department. The Department received a phone call from Lucretia Jordan who was distraught because she had found out she needed a building permit for solar and wanted to come into compliance. (The Jordan's have purchased a Manufactured Home from Clayton Homes in Pueblo, and have an active building permit with Huerfano County). We ascertained the contractor the Jordan's used, Mountain View Solar, isn't licensed in Huerfano County. The homeowners Frederick and Lucretia Jordan were recommended the Solar Company by Clayton Homes.

Currently: Huerfano County Building Department contacted Mountain View Solar and asked them to submit a contractor's license. They stated, since they were Amish he needed to use the postal service. A permit was sent via the United States Postal Service over a week ago and Mountain View Solar claims they still have not received it.

The Department talked with Matt Wisman with Clayton Homes and he told us that Mountain View Solar was recommended to them because they are one of the few solar companies that install off-grid solar. Clayton Homes has used them for three projects and found they not obtaining contractor licenses, not applying for building permits, as well as not obtaining the proper electrical permits from the State of Colorado. The State Electrical Inspector, Luke Hansen, went to inspect the property and denied electricity to the property until the permitting is completed as well as Mountain View Solar coming into compliance with the ground mount solar inspections per the Colorado State regulations. The Jordan's have paid over \$25,000.00 for this solar project that will not pass state inspection.

The Building Department spoke with Mr. John Mast on December 6, 2023. Mr. Mast stated that he only sells the equipment. However, if the homeowner requests help installing the system he will install at no charge. Mr. Mast admonished that he does not pull any permits whether it is a building permit or the state electrical permit(s). Mr. Mast indicated that he had "No interest in obtaining a Contractor's License" as he only sells the product. Mr. Mast is not registered with the Secretary of State but claims to hold a "Colorado State Vendor's License."

Huerfano County Building Regulations:

Section 8.02 Enforcement Authority

.01 The authority, procedures and powers of the County Building Official designated by resolution of the Huerfano County Board of County Commissioners to enforce the edition of the International Building Code adopted by Huerfano County at any given time shall be as specified in Article 28, Title 30, Colorado Revised Statutes.

.02 The authority, powers and procedures of the County Attorney or his or her designee to act in regard to the enforcement of these Regulations, other Huerfano County building related resolutions and regulations, and the edition of the International Building Code adopted by Huerfano County at any given time shall, as specified in Article 28, Title 30, Colorado Revised Statutes.

.03 All other authority, processes and procedures regarding the enforcement, violation and penalties of these Regulations, other Huerfano County building related resolutions and regulations and the edition of the International Building Code adopted by Huerfano County at any given time shall be as specified in Article 28, Title 30, Colorado Revised Statutes.

.04 Nothing herein shall limit the enforcement of authority of the County, or any participating jurisdiction, via the Courts

Key Considerations: Mountain View Solar has not obtained a Contractor's License in Huerfano County, they have not pulled building permits for their projects, and they have not pulled any required electrical permits from the State of Colorado. Also, there is a possibility that Mountain View Solar is not insured. On the invoice that Mountain View Crafts and Solar provided to the Jordan's, it states a "\$17,000.00 down balance when installed".

Staff Thoughts/Comments: We would like to ask The Board for suggestions on how to proceed with this situation or whether to refer it to Code Enforcement.