



Department of Consumer
and Employment Protection
Government of Western Australia
Consumer Protection

Media Statement

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Unlicensed Plumber Ross William McPhee

Maylands builder **Ross McPhee** has been fined for carrying out plumbing work without being the holder of a plumber's licence, after he installed a new hot water unit in his investment property.

On 5 May 2008, Mr McPhee appeared in the Perth Magistrate's Court where he was fined \$1000 and ordered to pay \$3000 in costs.

In February 2007 Mr McPhee had sought the assistance of a licensed plumber to submit a compliance certificate to the Plumbers Licensing Board for the work he completed, however the plumber declined to issue one.

Plumbers Licensing Board chairperson Tom Hall said that the Board would investigate all complaints where it is alleged that plumbing work has been carried out by people who are not properly licensed to do so.

"Licensed plumbers signing off on work they did not do undermines the integrity of the profession, and I urge all tradespeople to be vigilant in this area," he said.

"The incorrect installation of gas hot water units can have potentially disastrous and costly consequences if not fitted and tested by licensed plumbers. Consumers need to be aware of the danger of not having a licensed plumber connect such equipment," Mr Hall said.

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