

Media Release



Government of South Australia

Office of Consumer and
Business Affairs

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Country gas man gets disconnected

The Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) has commenced legal action against an unlicensed gas fitter based in Whyalla.

Following information received from the Office of the Technical Regulator, OCBA initiated enforcement action against Clifford James (Jim) Higgins for unlawfully performing gas fitting work. Mr Higgins operates Jim Higgins Master Plumbers Pty Ltd.

Although Mr Higgins is a licensed plumbing contractor, the Commissioner for Consumer Affairs, David Green said: "Higgins has repeatedly ignored warnings relating to unlicensed gas fitting work, exposing consumers to potential danger. "

"Higgins this week, agreed to an order of a Master of the District Court not to personally carry out any gas fitting work for customers until further order."

"I urge home owners not to take risks when it comes to gas safety."

"Whether you live in a big city or a rural area, ensure that you use a registered person for any plumbing, gas fitting or electrical work, as the consequences of getting it wrong can be disastrous."

"Always put safety first and check a trader's licence card to make sure they are actually qualified to do the job you are engaging them to do."

OCBA and the Office of the Technical Regulator continue to work together to address concerns about the standard and safety of work as well as tackling unlicensed operators in the industry.

To find a licensed builder, electrician, plumber or gas fitter consumers are encouraged to visit the Licensing Public Register which is available at www.ocba.sa.gov.au/licensing/