

## **Are You Following Your State Laws and Board Regulations as Electricians in Massachusetts?**

This video can be watched on the We Are Electricians website

### **Call the State Investigation Unit at 617-727-7406 to:**

- Report a violation of State Laws or State Board Regulations
- Contact a state attorney on staff who will take care of any unlicensed work in MA!

You can watch our video on Electrical Fires to see how electrical fires start in the home.

### **To File an Appeal to the State Board:**

- Provide a request in writing made regarding the appeal to  
The Board of Electricians' Appeals,  
1000 Washington Street, Suite 710,  
Boston, MA 02118-6100.
- Provide the notice of disapproval received by wiring inspector
- Bring a check or money order for \$86 made payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

### **Why the 1:1 Ratio in Massachusetts is law:**

How is an electrical apprentice able to work without an electrical license in MA? This is where state laws and regulations come into play! The 1:1 Ratio law allows an apprentice to get credit for the hours worked toward his/her license without having an electrical license in Massachusetts.

### **Top five state complaints against electricians and unlicensed electricians in MA**

- Electricians or unlicensed workers not having proper name and license number on truck, business cards, business documents, and social media
- Contractual matters between electrician and customer
- Unprofessional work on the job
- Unlicensed electrical work
- Price gouging of electricians

## **This can change!**

Each year thousands of complaints about licensed electricians and unlicensed workers who are not following their own state rules can result in state hearings, criminal hearings, state attorneys, court fees, and penalties.

Get the information you need to become a professional electrician without all the headaches! We Are Electricians has 15 hour classes coming soon!

## **When You File a Complaint against an Electrician:**

Call the State Consumer Protection Hotline at 617-727-7406. You will then be asked to file a complaint form

The electrician or unlicensed worker will receive a letter from the state investigation office asking for his/her side of the story. Then when all facts are in from both sides of the parties involved the State will make a decision to take further action on the complaint or close the complaint. The facts from both sides/parties involved are very important so that the state makes a fair decision on the complaint against a licensed electrician or unlicensed worker.

Here is a partial list of common state complaints against an electrician or unlicensed worker:

- Electrician price gouging
- Unlicensed electrical work performed
- Electrical work not completed on the job
- Expired licensee working on the job
- Electrician not following their State laws and Regulations from the State Board office
- Consumer not happy with electrician
- Unsafe electrical work found by an electrician
- Electrical hazard reported by the inspector of wires
- Electrical Fire on the job under investigation
- Section eight electrical meter cost problem
- Electrician working without proper name/license on truck, business cards, and social media
- Electrician violated the MA Building Code requirement
- No written contract between both parties involved, only verbal – electrician versus consumer
- Customer never paid for the work performed or electrician never finished the work
- Electrician and apprentice without Workers Liabilities/Completion Insurance for work performed or workers compensation insurance for employee
- Electrician acting unprofessional on the job
- Electrician removing electrical service from the building because of non-payment
- Electrical Corporation doing work with the wrong master licensed board officer in place

- Electrical Ratio 1:1 problem, MGL 141 s. 8
- Fire Permit and inspection not obtained or performed from the local fire department
- Inspector of Wires and electrician code dispute
- Electrician not meeting minimum electrical Code requirement
- Consumer wanting an answer about costly bill
- Electrical permit not obtained within the 5 days from start of the electrical work
- Electrical Work performed without license and permit obtained from city or town
- Electrician asking who has jurisdiction over him - the utility or Inspector of Wires
- Two journeyman electricians caught working in the business together
- State Reciprocate Electrical License had expired
- Shipyard worker wants an electrical license
- C-license working on security without S-license in place from the department of public safety
- Electrician never completed the 15-hour Mandatory license renewal class – may have to take test again
- Electrician or unlicensed worker NOT working under the name stated on his/her license
- Apprentice needing Form 272 filled out by employer - No Payroll records
- Utility wanting electrician to remove SE cable from meter socket to weather head on an overhead service

**You Name it, anyone you meet and the deal goes sour, can make a complaint against an electrician:**

- Ex- wife
- Ex- girlfriend
- Ex-husband
- Ex-boyfriend
- Friend
- Boss
- Inspector of Wires
- Building Inspector
- Zoning Inspector
- Co-worker
- Electrician
- State Investigation Unit
- Homeowner
- Your Family Members
- Customer
- Neighbor

We know the Board of State Examiners of Electrician's wants all licensed electricians/fire and security to follow all board regulations and MA State laws on the job sites at all times.

After the Board of Examiners of Electricians hears your complaint and acts on your state complaint/case, your complaint can be taken to the county criminal court where the violation took place.

An electrical code violation will get you a disapproval notice from the Inspector of Wires, but a violation of a state law will get you state and criminal court hearings.

Education is your best bet! We Are Electricians helps professional electricians avoid getting caught up in state and county hearing/court systems.

State complaint form - <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/file-a-co...>

### **Sample letter of complaint:**

Dear:

Our State Office of Investigation has just received a complaint against your electrical license. We ask that you supply our office with your side of the story. We will need the following information from you so we can resolve this state complaint against you. Not supplying our office with the appropriate information could result in us bringing this matter to the attention of the State Board of Examiners of Electricians to take disciplinary actions against you as a licensed electrician. Please send us the following information as needed below to help close this state complaint:

If a state complaint is filed against you, you must present to the state electrical permit (dated within 5 days of the start of work from a town or city where the work took place, as well as one or more of the factual documents listed below :

- Electrical job photos regarding your complaint
- Signed job contract of work performed between both parties
- Written estimate of job signed by both parties
- Written Inspector of Wires notice of 527 CMR 12.00 violation
- Witten electrical hazard reported by inspector of wires
- County Civil Court decision to finish work the electrician refused to finish because of non-payment
- Electric Utilities notice of violation in your jurisdiction
- OSHA violation(s) and/or OSHA Card
- Copy of your updated MA Electrical License (A), (B), (C), (D) – if unlicensed work is performed it should be filed in the county criminal court by the local inspector of wires

- Machine operator's license if needed (Ratio problem)
- Written job stop notice by the building department
- Business advertisement – business cards, truck logo, photo, website, Facebook page, estimates, contracts with license number and name – must be same as written on your electrical license
- Video recording of factual information, photos, written state electrical investigator report, or Written Inspector of Wires report (electrical job site ratio problem)
- Building code violation notice by a building inspector or any other official in that town or city, such as a zoning inspector
- Price gouging of electrical work in MA – need a written contract between both parties
- Electrical MCE review, 15- and 6-hour problem with license renewal – send your certificate of proof into state office
- The Board of Examiners of Electrician's appeal notice – electrician can appeal an inspector's decision
- Written Inspector of Wires report submitted about hazardous electrical work performed by electrician
- Electrical union notice of type of work in detail on job site
- Expired electrical license – state Electrical Board will take notice – this could be considered as working without a license! a criminal matter!
- Fire permit or fire violation notice
- Copy of (C) fire or security contractor license or (D) fire or security technicians license
- Electrical fire report from the State Fire Marshall's Office
- The electrical master name and license number of the officer of the corporation doing work in MA
- Copy of S-license
- Copy of liability completion insurance information
- Copy of your workers compensation information
- Company names of those who were subcontracted on the job – electrical can't subcontract electrical work in Massachusetts

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

