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**CONTACT: Tallahassee Builders Association
[850-385-1414]**

CHECK CREDENTIALS WHEN HIRING A PROFESSIONAL REMODELER

Tallahassee, July 2015- If you're planning a home remodel, hire a professional remodeler with excellent credentials. According to Tallahassee Builders Association, the best remodeling results are achieved when qualified remodelers do the work.

"Remodeling professionals have training, experience, skills, and solid references," said Brandon Jett, TBA Remodelers Council Chair. "Home owners can hire the best remodeler for the job by checking credentials and choosing the most qualified candidate."

Ask about these credentials when hiring a professional remodeler:

1. Licensing and Insurance

All professional home remodelers should be insured and able to display a certificate proving possession of insurance. While not all states require remodelers to be licensed, in those states the remodelers should also be able to share proof of licensure. Insurance and licensing (where applicable) helps to demonstrate that the remodeling firm is in good standing.

2. Education

The most skilled professional remodelers not only have experience on the job, but education. This may include designations such as Certified Graduate Remodeler, Graduate Master Remodeler, Certified Aging in Place Specialist, Certified Green Professional and more. These remodelers have invested in continuing education and professional development to keep their remodeling and business skills sharp and better serve their customers.

3. Association Membership

Many successful remodelers are members of trade associations like the National Association of Home Builders—Remodelers because it offers business resources and continuing education. Membership also provides opportunity for professional growth and expanding knowledge of the remodeling industry.

4. Excellent References

Glowing references are abundant for professional remodelers because happy home owners enjoy sharing their good experiences and appreciation of their newly upgraded space. Ask to speak with previous clients and to see photos of previous home remodels for getting a sense of their customer relations practice and work style.

5. **Business Skills**

Experienced remodelers know how to manage their business, which provides stability and security for their customers. These professionals will provide a written contract for a home remodeling job, as well as guarantees and warranties for their work. Another important sign of honest business practices from a remodeler is outlining a clear payment schedule and not requiring large amounts of cash up front. Professional remodelers should also have a good reputation with the Better Business Bureau and a good credit report, indicating solid business operations.

Conduct thorough research when hiring a professional home remodeler so that you hire someone with good credentials. Verifying smart business practices and remodeling expertise will better ensure that your home remodel will be completed successfully.

For more tips on planning a home remodel or hiring a professional remodeler, visit nahb.org/remodel or contact Tallahassee Builders Association at 850-385-1414 or via email at lynne.edwards@tallyba.com.

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The Tallahassee Builders Association is a 47 year old non-profit association representing the housing industry in a 3 county region. Our goal is to provide sage and affordable homeownership opportunities to our community. For more information on the Tallahassee Builders Association or to hire a professional Remodeler visit our site at www.tallyba.com.