# TOP 5 CONSUMER TIPS FOR HIRING A CONTRACTOR

When Texans have to make repairs after a storm, these tips can help with finding and hiring a reputable contractor.



#### ASK FOR MULTIPLE BIDS

Compare prices for different contractors. Try to get at least three estimates.



Make sure the contractor has an established connection to Texas. Watch out for contractors who go door-to-door after storms.



### CHECK REFERENCES

Ask for a list of references and call each reference. Check multiple review sites, such as Yelp, Google Reviews, Angi, and the Better Business Bureau.



### OBTAIN PROOF OF INSURANCE AND BONDS

Ask for copies of contractor's liability insurance, and ensure the contractor is bonded. Bonds protect you financially in case of a botched job.



## **GET CONTRACT IN WRITING**

Keep a copy of the contract. Do not sign a contract that makes you pay more than 30% of the job up front.

For over 25 years, Texas Watch has advocated for the rights of policyholders. You can find more helpful consumer resources at <u>texaswatch.org/stormhelp</u>.

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