



Jonathan Mintz  
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June 22, 2010

**VIA EMAIL**  
[Redacted]

**RE: Home Improvement License Required when Ceilings Replaced with Sheet Rock, Kitchen Cabinets Installed etc,**

Dear Ms. H [Redacted]

I am writing in reply to your email request for a letter of interpretation as to whether or not a home improvement license from the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs ("the Department") is required to "replace ceilings with sheet rock, replacing radiator valves, repairing basement leaks, re-arranging kitchens, move gas and water lines, building walls, installing kitchen cabinets, installing ceramic tiles, etc." The short answer to your inquiry is yes.

According to your email, you retained an electrician who claims that he does not need to have a home improvement license. Pursuant to Section 20-386(2) of the New York City Administrative Code ("the Code"), "home improvement" is defined as "the construction, repair, replacement, remodeling, alteration, conversion, rehabilitation, renovation, modernization, improvement, or addition to any land or building, or that portion thereof which is used or designed to be use as a residence or dwelling place. . . ." The work you described falls within the definition of home improvement work. Accordingly, a home improvement license is required from the Department for the services you described.

Sincerely,  
[Redacted Signature]  
Staff Counsel