



PRESS RELEASE

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New ABC Program Certifies Compliance with Independent Contractor, tax and workers' compensation laws *First Certified Companies Announced*

ABC's Massachusetts Chapter has announced the first group of contractors to be approved in the association's new Contractor Employee Certification Program.

This program recognizes those contractors who operate in full accordance with the law and to high standards of professionalism and responsibility. In order to achieve certification, companies are subject to an independent review by a licensed certified public accountant. The review examines their business practices and verifies their compliance with key federal and state employment and tax laws.

The certified contractors are:

- **ASAP Drywall System Trust**
- **Commercial Drywall and Construction Co., Inc.***
- **Drywall Services, Inc.***
- **Gyptech, LLC***
- **Legacy Wall Systems, Inc.***
- **Matrix Interior Construction, Inc.,**
- **Tenant Systems, Inc.***
- **W. T. Kenney Company, Inc.***

***ABC member firm**

“With construction being one of our state’s largest and most important industries, ABC established this program to allow those responsible, ethical firms to differentiate themselves in a marketplace that, unfortunately, is subject to cheating by some who have chosen to not play by the rules,” said ABC MA President Greg Beeman.

“This certification documents that these firms play by the rules and follows the law,” said Beeman. “ABC is pleased to document that these contractors not only values quality construction, but adheres to ethical business practices as well,” he said.

The independent contractor law is a major issue in the construction industry. Companies that follow the law and properly classify their workers as employees should not be at a competitive disadvantage because they are bidding against companies that choose to misclassify their workers as 1099s in order to avoid the overhead costs, according to Beeman.

The program includes a review of a company’s compliance with key federal and state employment and tax laws by a Massachusetts-licensed certified public accountant. These include:

- a) Massachusetts “Independent Contractor” Law, MGL Ch. 149, S. 148B
- b) Massachusetts Health Care Law, MGL Ch. 11M
- c) Applicable state and federal tax laws
- d) Unemployment Insurance contributions
- e) Workers’ Compensation insurance coverage
- f) Form I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification

“The ABC Contractor Employee Certification Program was borne out of a desire of reputable contractors to document and highlight those companies who follow the law and play by the rules. In doing so, we hope to promote the message of responsible conduct throughout the industry,” Beeman said.

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