

Benefits to Choosing a Member of the Wilmington-Cape Fear Home Builders Association

Members of the Wilmington-Cape Fear Home Builders Association and other local homebuilder associations across the country are recognized as leaders in the homebuilding industry. WCFHBA members believe and affirm that homeownership can and should be within the reach of every family and that homes should be well designed, well constructed and located in attractive communities. WCFHBA members have dedicated themselves to the research and development of new materials, new building techniques and improved methods of home financing, to the end result that every home buyer may obtain the greatest possible value for every dollar.

As with any professional trade association, membership is voluntary, and membership in the WCFHBA defines a home building professional as a company whose paramount responsibility is to the homebuyer, the community and the country. Honesty is the guiding business policy of WCFHBA members, while high standards of health, safety and sanitation are built into every home. Members also agree to deal fairly with their respective employees, trade partners and suppliers.

When researching a builder for your new home, remodeling job or even a small maintenance task in your home, refer to the Wilmington-Cape Fear Home Builders Association for a list of members in your area. You can search for WCFHBA members online through the Member Search function or call 910-799-2611 to find out if a company is a member of the Association.

Following are some points to consider when choosing a homebuilding professional.

- **Does the professional offer a warranty service?** Builders are required by law to offer a home warranty. More information can be found in this Home Warranty article (link).
- **Does the professional offer a list of references?** Ask for a list of client references, and speak to the builder's previous customers. If possible, see examples of the builder's work. Ask the builder if he or she has a home in the WCFHBA's Parade of Homes that you can tour.
- **How does the professional handle disputes and warranty claims? What types of disputes has the professional dealt with throughout the past three years, and what were the outcomes?** WCFHBA members are encouraged to respond to all claims in writing and to handle all disputes through arbitration services.
- **Does the professional maintain adequate insurance coverage?** Throughout their membership, WCFHBA members are provided competitive rate pricing programs for workers' compensation, general liability and health insurance.
- **Is the professional timely and ethical with business practices?** WCFHBA members are committed to quality customer service and ethical business practices.
- **Does the professional take part in continuing education for all employees?** The WCFHBA offers an extensive education and credentialing program for all homebuilding professionals. Designations that homebuilding professionals can obtain include Certified Professional Home Builder, Certified Graduate Builder, Certified Graduate Remodeler, Certified Graduate Associate, Graduate Master Builder, Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist, Field Superintendent Designation, Certified New Home Sales Professional and North Carolina Real Estate Commission Accredited Courses.
- **Does the professional make safe jobsite practices a priority?** WCFHBA members are encouraged to utilize ongoing training and safety practices.
- **Is the professional a member of the WCFHBA?** WCFHBA members can be located by visiting www.wilmingtonhomebuilders.com.