

Public Warning Notice

Issued under section 223 of the *Australian Consumer Law* (SA)

and section 48 of the *Fair Trading Act 1987* (SA)

Matthew Rugolo

The Commissioner for Consumer Affairs is issuing a public warning notice about Matthew Rugolo in circumstances where Mr Rugolo is alleged to be engaging in conduct which adversely affects or may adversely affect the interest of consumers.

Mr Rugolo has contracted for paving, concreting and other building work using the business names *MR Concrete Grinding and Polishing*, *Dynamite Concrete Polishing* and *Dynamite Concrete*. The business names *MR Concrete Grinding and Polishing* and *Dynamite Concrete Polishing* have been registered by Mr Rugolo using the ABN 33 582 455 227. The business name *Dynamite Concrete* has not been registered by him.

Mr Rugolo does not hold a building work contractor's licence under Part 2 of the *Building Work Contractors Act 1995* (SA) (**BWC Act**). As such, he cannot lawfully contract to perform any "building work" under that Act. This includes paving, concreting, earthworks and the installation of fencing.

Consumer and Business Services (**CBS**) has received several complaints from consumers about Mr Rugolo.

These complaints allege that Mr Rugolo:

- contracted to perform building work while unlicensed
- held himself out as a licensed building work contractor despite being unlicensed at the time
- demanded excessive deposits and/or demanded payments which he was not entitled to under the BWC Act
- accepted payment for the performance of work and failed to perform that work in a reasonable time or at all, contrary to section 158(7) of the *Australian Consumer Law* (SA)
- performed defective work and did not rectify it, despite being asked to
- failed to adhere to the terms of an instrument of agreement made between him and a customer after a conciliation conference held under the *Fair Trading Act 1987* (SA).

An example of the conduct that is subject of the complaints about Mr Rugolo is as follows.

On 20 February 2026 Mr Rugolo gave a quote addressed to a consumer in the amount of \$13,970 for the supply and installation of exposed aggregate concrete paths and a spoon drain using the business name *Dynamite Concrete*.

This work constituted "building work" under the BWC Act. Consequently, Mr Rugolo was not licensed to contract for this work.

The consumer paid a deposit of \$4,000 into Mr Rugolo's nominated bank account.

Mr Rugolo partially completed the work.

The consumer made a progress payment to Mr Rugolo after which he became uncontactable for an extended period.

The consumer engaged a building inspector to inspect Mr Rugolo's work. In the inspector's view, the work was substandard and needed to be removed and re-laid.

On 23 July 2026 the Building Industry Response Team within CBS issued Mr Rugolo a \$5000 expiation for the alleged offence of contracting for building work while unlicensed contrary to section 6(1)(a) of the BWC Act.

Further, Mr Rugolo is currently the subject of a prosecution by the Commissioner for alleged offences under the BWC Act and the *Australian Consumer Law* (SA).

Notwithstanding the above, CBS has received information which suggests that Mr Rugolo is continuing to perform building work and take deposits or other payments from consumers while unlicensed.

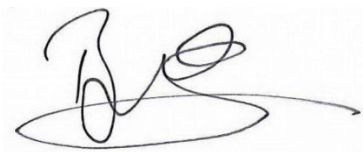
I consider that Mr Rugolo has demonstrated a pattern of conduct involving contracting for building work whilst unlicensed, demanding payments he is not entitled to under the BWC Act, and accepting payments from consumers for goods and services which are not provided in a reasonable time.

CBS will continue to monitor Mr Rugolo's activities and will take enforcement action as necessary.

I am warning the public about doing business with Mr Rugolo as I:

1. have reasonable grounds to suspect that his conduct may constitute contraventions of the *Australian Consumer Law* (SA), *Fair Trading Act 1987* (SA) and *Building Work Contractors Act 1995* (SA);
2. am satisfied that one or more persons have suffered, or are likely to suffer a detriment as a result of the alleged conduct; and
3. am satisfied that it is in the public interest to issue a public warning notice.

If anyone has concerns about their dealings with Matthew Rugolo trading as *MR Concrete Grinding and Polishing*, *Dynamite Concrete Polishing* and/or *Dynamite Concrete*, they should contact CBS on 131 882.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ben Broyd', with a large, stylized 'B' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ben Broyd

Assistant Commissioner and Delegate of the Commissioner for Consumer Affairs

Dated: 9 September 2026