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November 14, 2012

Mr. Mike Holmes

The Holmes Group

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Canada

Dear Mr. Holmes:

We wish to thank you for all of your work in helping to educate the public about contracting and contractors. We are confident that you have helped the viewing public immensely and hopefully, your efforts will initiate appropriate legislation and regulations to hold contractors and building inspectors liable for their work.

My wife and I have been watching your programs for several years and didn't realize we had learned so much until we proceeded to have our basement finished. We knew that selection was extremely important and didn't wish to simply choose a contractor from the Yellow Pages. We went to Angie's list.

We selected two very highly recommended contractors to bid on finishing our basement. Both were prompt, made several suggestions, discussed what they would propose to do and the time frame. We selected Asa Stanford Builders (Blake Shirley and Mark Graves) of Charlotte, North Carolina based on their presentation, their presence and their lower price.

They did the things you require. A building permit was secured. They started promptly according to the timetable, kept us informed every day, usually at the beginning of the workday, about the progress of the project and what was going to happen next. Both Mark and Blake monitored the progress as well as the workman. They came at the end of the workday to make certain everything was clean and orderly. They made certain any needed supplies and equipment were present. They took us through the work being done and only after we were satisfied with the work performed did they ask for money.

They reviewed proposed work with us to be certain that was we wanted. They made suggestions to our plans and graciously accommodated several last minute changes. All of their sub-contractors were very pleasant, courteous, neatly groomed and dressed. All of the things you advocated for good contractors performance.

The work of the subcontractors was excellent. All of the things you point out in your programs that should be done were. All of the HVAC ducts were metal taped at the joints and putty was applied

anywhere there could be a potential leak. Duct work was as direct as possible. After installation, the HVAC guys returned to fine tune the equipment. The wires into the electrical boxes and the new circuit box were clean and orderly, like your guys do. The electricians made several very helpful suggestions pertaining to light placements and switch locations which enhanced the project. Lots of foam insulation was applied anywhere there was a possible leak. The plumbers did a wonderful job of installing a full size bathroom and work sinks (my wife is an artist), as well as connecting the water and sewer hook-ups.

The rough carpentry work was precise and the finish work was excellent. The dry walling was great and after a prime coat, the two coats of finish paint made the job flawless. At each stage, work did not proceed until the Building Inspector gave his blessing. He also made a couple suggestions which were readily accepted.

The job came in on time (a couple times our neighbors remarked about the late hours being worked) and below budget. We were so pleased and extolled our great experience to all who would listen. A couple of our neighbors used Asa Stanford Builders and experienced similar results. We know had it not been for watching your programs, we could have had a disaster, like some of those you face on your programs. We are certain many others have benefited. We have in many ways too. We have two new friends whose workmanship and integrity are exemplary. In short, they do it like Mike Holmes; They Do It Right!

Thank you so much and if you ever need outstanding associates in the Charlotte North Carolina area, don't hesitate to call Asa Stanford Builders (704-309-0993 or [www.asastanford.com](http://www.asastanford.com)).

This is likely not one of your usual letters but we just had to give you a lift. There are some good guys out there.

Sincerely,

*Lew & Pauli*