



DATE	February 10, 2023
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NAME	Richard Gillet
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LICENSURE STATUS AT THE TIME OF INCIDENT	Unlicensed
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ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION	Conviction
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LOCATION	Leamington
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REGULATION DESCRIPTION	Operated an electrical contracting business without a valid electrical contractor license, contrary to s.3 of O. Reg. 570/05, and thereby did commit an offence contrary to ss.113.2(1)(d) of the <i>Electricity Act</i> . Gillet was fined \$3,000 and placed on probation for two (2) years.
	Failed to file with the Inspection Department a completed application for inspection of work on an electrical installation as required by Rule 2-004(1) of the 2018 Electrical Safety Code, adopted by reference in O. Reg. 164/99, and thereby did commit an offence contrary ss.113(12)(b) of the <i>Electricity Act</i> Gillet was given a suspended sentence.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTRAVENTION	In December of 2021 Gillet, who was not a licensed electrical contractor, was hired to replace the main electrical distribution panel at a residential property – work that is required to be completed by a Licensed Electrical Contractor. In addition, when Gillet replaced the panel, he failed to file a 'Notification of Work' with the Electrical Safety Authority.
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	Gillet was placed on probation for two years, which required he publish a letter to Ontarians about his conviction and the importance of electrical safety.
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Dear Ontarians,

I write to help bring awareness to the importance of electrical safety.

In December of 2021 I replaced replaced an electrical distribution panel at a residential property for a client of mine, work I knew could only be performed by a licensed electrical contractor.

I am not licensed by the Electrical Safety Authority (“ESA”), the regulator responsible for electrical safety and licensing of businesses that provide electrical services to the public. Since I don’t have a license, I was unable to obtain ESA a ‘notification of work’ (also known as a ‘permit’). This presented the homeowner with a whole host of problems. For starters, it meant that my work wouldn’t be inspected to ensure that it was safe and that it complied with the Ontario Electrical Safety Code. It also could negatively affect any insurance claim made, such as because of a fire that might have been caused by any mistakes I made.

I do not have liability insurance or WSIB. As a result, if I got hurt in my client’s home, I exposed both myself and the homeowner to significant financial risk since the client would be held financially responsible. Only licensed electrical contracting businesses are insured.

Perhaps most importantly, however, is how I put myself and others at great risk when I didn’t arrange to have the electricity to the property safely disconnected by the local utility prior to undertaking the work. I could have been seriously injured, killed or harmed others.

I was then charged by the ESA with having contravened the *Electricity Act, 1998*.

I take full responsibility for my actions. As part of my sentence imposed by the Ontario Court of Justice, I write this letter expressing to you the importance of ensuring that only those qualified and licensed to perform electrical work are hired to do so. When hiring someone to do electrical work, be sure to check their contractor’s ECRA/ESA licence number, which should be displayed on the contractor’s website and business cards. It may cost you more to hire a licensed electrical contractor, but the long-term savings cannot be understated.

If you know of anyone performing unlicensed electrical work, I encourage you to help protect your family and your community, and reach out the Electrical Safety Authority. They will inspect, investigate, and help keep us all safe.