



# DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT –BUILDING OWNER/BUILDER PERMIT AFFIDAVIT FORM

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State of Florida  
County of Broward  
City of Fort Lauderdale

Under certain circumstances, as described below, owners of property may be exempt from contractor qualification and certification requirements. To qualify for such an exemption, an owner must personally appear and be provided with a DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, and must personally sign the building permit. If you build or improve a duplex, you must live in one of the units. If the work is on a commercial building, it must be free standing (i.e., not a strip center).

### DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

1. I understand that state law requires construction to be done by a licensed contractor and have applied for an owner-builder permit under an exemption from the law. The exemption specifies that I, as the owner of the property listed, may act as my own contractor with certain restrictions even though I do not have a license.
2. I understand that building permits are not required to be signed by a property owner unless he or she is responsible for the construction and is not hiring a licensed contractor to assume responsibility.
3. I understand that, as an owner-builder, I am the responsible party of record on a permit. I understand that I may protect myself from potential financial risk by hiring a licensed contractor and having the permit filed in his or her name instead of my own name. I also understand that a contractor is required by law to be licensed in Florida and to list his or her license numbers on permits and contracts.
4. I understand that I may build or improve a one-family or two-family residence or a farm outbuilding. I may also build or improve a commercial building if the cost does not exceed \$75,000. The building or residence must be for my own use or occupancy. It may not be built or substantially improved for sale or lease. If a building or residence that I have built or substantially improved myself is sold or leased within 1 year after the construction is complete, the law will presume that I built or substantially improved it for sale or lease, which violates the exemption.
5. I understand that, as the owner-builder, I must provide direct, onsite supervision of the construction.
6. I understand that I may not hire an unlicensed person to act as my contractor or to supervise persons working on my building or residence. It is my responsibility to ensure that the persons whom I employ have the licenses required by law and by county or municipal ordinance.
7. I understand that it is frequent practice of unlicensed persons to have the property owner obtain an owner-builder permit that erroneously implies that the property owner is providing his or her own labor and materials. I, as an owner-builder, may be held liable and subjected to serious financial risk for any injuries sustained by an unlicensed person or his or her employees while working on my property. My homeowner's insurance may not provide coverage for those injuries. I am willfully acting as an owner-builder and am aware of the limits of my insurance coverage for injuries to workers on my property.
8. I understand that I may not delegate the responsibility for supervising work to a licensed contractor who is not licensed to perform the work being done. Any person working on my building who is not licensed must work under my direct supervision and must be employed by me, which means that I must comply with laws requiring the withholding of federal income tax and social security contributions under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and must provide workers' compensation for the employee. I understand that my failure to follow these laws may subject me to serious financial risk.
9. I agree that, as the party legally and financially responsible for this proposed construction activity, I will abide by all applicable laws and requirements that govern owner-builders as well as employers. I also understand that the construction must comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, building codes, and zoning regulations.
10. I understand that I may obtain more information regarding my obligations as an employer from the Internal Revenue Service, the United States Small Business Administration, the Florida Department of Financial Services, and the Florida Department of Revenue. I also understand that I may contact the Florida Construction Industry Licensing Board at 850-487-1395 or [Call.Center@dbpr.state.fl.us](mailto:Call.Center@dbpr.state.fl.us) or Broward County Permitting, Licensing and Consumer Protection Division at 954-765-4400, Option 8 or [broward.org/building/](http://broward.org/building/) for more information about licensed contractors.
11. I understand that licensed contractors are regulated by laws designed to protect the public. If I contract with a person who does not have a license, the Construction Industry Licensing Board and Department of Business and Professional Regulation may be unable to assist me with any financial loss that I sustain as a result of a complaint. My only remedy against an unlicensed contractor may be in civil court. I understand that, if an unlicensed contractor or employee of an individual or firm is injured while working on my property, I may be held liable for damages. If I obtain an owner-builder permit and wish to hire a licensed contractor, I will be responsible for verifying whether the contractor is properly licensed and the status of the contractor's workers' compensation coverage.
12. I am aware of, and consent to, an owner-builder permit applied for in my name and understand that I am the party legally and financially responsible for the proposed construction activity at the follow address: \_\_\_\_\_.
13. I agree to notify the City of Fort Lauderdale immediately of any additions, deletions, or changes to any of the information that I have provided on this disclosure

### AFFIDAVIT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am applying for a building permit pursuant to the Owner Builder exemption set forth in Florida Statute, Section 489.103 and Broward County Code Section 9-26. I hereby acknowledge that I have read the above DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, and that I comply with all the requirements for the issuance of an owner builder permit.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Property Owner)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

Form AB-284 Revised 10/08/09

