CHECKLIST FOR MONITORING BUILDERS AND TRADERSMEN

This is a checklist for monitoring builders and tradesmen so that your house is hurricane resistant. Particularly when there is minor damage, and a tradesman is called in to do the repairs, it is difficult to get the job properly supervised, so that you are assured of a disaster resistant house. If you do not have someone to supervise the work, the following is a list of details to look out for and insist that are present when the work is done.

☐ Check the gauge of galvanized sheet used. This should be at least 26 gauge, and preferably 24 gauge, which is thicker.

☐ Count the nail or screw spacing on the galvanized sheeting. There should be one nail in at least every other corrugation (every corrugation is better) along the lower edge of the roof, at the top of the roof below the ridge, and where the roof overhangs the gable walls on each of the purlins.

☐ Measure the overhang of the galvanized sheeting from the wall. This should be preferably not more than 12 inches, and definitely not more than 18 inches.

☐ Check that there are hurricane straps, one on each rafter, holding them down to the wall plate (the timber on top of the wall.
Check that the purlins are less than 2 feet 6 inches (750 mm) apart, and that they are being fixed at each rafter with two nails or one screw.

Check that there is something, usually a collar tie, holding the rafters together inside the roof at the ridge. It is possible to use metal straps to achieve this.

Remember to check the roof for leaks in the first rain after it has been fixed, so that the tradesman can be recalled to repair any defect.