

RenovationTrap.com

<http://www.RenovationTrap.com>

We're the newcomers to Washington who were brought to the verge of financial ruin by Windermere, the Northwest's largest real estate firm. We're attempting to turn our negative experiences into something positive for our community and the American Homestead. Our website is dedicated to a study of *Public Interest * Public Conscience * Public Duty

"You cannot submit to evil without allowing evil to grow. Each time the good are defeated, or each time they yield, they only cause the forces of evil to grow stronger. Greed feeds on greed, and crime grows with success. Our giving up what is ours merely to escape trouble would only create greater trouble for someone else." -- Louis Lamour, *A Man Called Noon*, Bantam, page 173.

September 1, 2009

Douglas Walsh
Chief
Consumer Protection Division
Office of the Attorney General of Washington
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000
Seattle, WA 98104

Regarding: Preemptive consumer protection

Dear Mr. Walsh:

As you know, traffic police enforce the traffic laws. Traffic police can:

1. Give offenders citations **after** they have broken traffic laws.

Or,

2. They can enforce the traffic laws **preemptively**. For example, traffic police can put up roadblocks to stop DUI offenders, arrest speeders, and cite people who drive through stop signs even if no accident results. Traffic police also discourage potential law-breakers by parking their marked police vehicles in the dividing strips of interstates. Would-be speeders see the police car from a distance and make sure they don't break the speed limit.

According to the Attorney General's website, the Attorney General:

Protects the public by upholding the Consumer Protection Act and enforcing laws against anti-competitive business practices.

<http://www.atg.wa.gov/WhatTheOfficeDoes.aspx>

Windermere Real Estate has a history of violating real estate state law. Those violations of law have resulted in severe losses to customers and many lawsuits. We have compiled information on Windermere's violations in a number of these lawsuits, which you may read at:

<http://Windermere-Victims.com>

As you can see, Windermere has become a great white shark in the sea of Washington commerce. For example, in a number of cases Windermere has been found in violation of its duty to disclose vital information to real estate customers. The courts have established that a failure to disclose after a duty to disclose is fraud. As you know, there can be bank fraud, currency fraud, and real estate fraud. Fraud is fraud.

We have learned that the Department of Licensing refuses to discipline Windermere **after** the fact of consumer rip-off. We've been corresponding with Assistant Attorney General Jody Lee Campbell on the issue. She has given us to understand that no matter how egregiously the Department of Licensing violates and ignores state law and its own charter, the Attorney General will defend any legal challenges to Department of Licensing actions. You can read this correspondence at:

<http://www.renovationtrap.com/ag/index.html>

See items 14 through 19.

But now your Office has an opportunity to take preemptive action to avoid further destructive actions by Windermere with resulting injury to trusting individuals and court cases extending into the future.

As of the date of this writing, Windermere is the listing agency on four units at the Waldron-Young Condominium complex in the Fairview area of Bellingham. The combined total asking price of these units is approximately \$5 million.

The Waldron Young Condominium Complex suffers from serious construction defects, as attested by renowned home inspector George Guttmann of Sound Home Inspection. A copy of the Guttmann report was transmitted to Windermere with a letter, dated August 26, 2009, and are being made available to you at our website at:

<http://www.renovationtrap.com/gallery/files/waldron-young-guttmann.pdf>

and

<http://www.renovationtrap.com/gallery/files/waldron-cover.pdf>

As we point out in our letter, Windermere is, by law, obliged to disclose the defects of the Waldron-Young Complex to potential customers. But given the history of Windermere's deception and its failure to disclose, will they do so?

Given the Attorney General's interest in "upholding the Consumer Protection Act and enforcing laws against anti-competitive business practices," we suspect you will want to act preemptively, to discourage the possibility of Windermere succeeding with another \$5 million in consumer rip-offs. We suspect you will want to conduct yourself as the traffic police do, and make your monitoring presence known to the potential Windermere offenders.

Please let us know what actions you plan to take to monitor the situation and ensure that Windermere discloses the construction defects documented in the Guttmann report to potential buyers of the Waldron-Young Condominium units.

Certainly we will be of every assistance we can.

Please let us know what you intend to do. If you will take no preemptive action to discourage Windermere from ripping off potential buyers of Waldron-Young units and the combined forces of the Department of Licensing and the Attorney General's Office will take no action against Windermere rip-offs after the fact, we must reasonably conclude the Attorney General's office has exempted Windermere from the Consumer Protection Act and Windermere customers from the protection of law.

Our readers will want to know.

Sincerely,

Mark & Carol DeCoursey
8209 172nd Ave., NE
Redmond, WA 98052

cc: Victims of Windermere (VOW)
Society for the Ethical Treatment of Homeowners (SETH)