



Legal Update Newsletter

March 2010

Welcome to the latest edition of Silldorf & Levine, LLP's Quarterly Legal Update Newsletter!

If you have questions about the articles or information in our newsletter or you need information regarding legal representation, please contact:

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Change to Civil Code on Notice of Assessments & Foreclosure

California Civil Code § 1365.1 requires homeowner associations to provide a written notice of assessments, foreclosures and payment plans to each association member during the 60 day period before the beginning of an association's fiscal year. This notice is meant to inform the homeowners of current assessments and foreclosures occurring in the upcoming fiscal year.

After a recent revision to this code section, this notice must also inform the homeowners of their right to pay disputed assessment amounts under protest and of the homeowner's right to contest the disputed amount in small claims court. To adequately contest a disputed assessment, legal representation may be needed.

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heard, feel free to contact Silldorf & Levine.

S & L Expands Practice into Orange County

Our firm recently announced the launch of an Orange County office based in Irvine. The focus of the Orange County office will be on community association representation and construction defect litigation.

Partner Howard Silldorf explains, "Having an office in Orange County will allow us better access to our growing base of clients in the area and will increase our ability to provide outstanding service and superior results." Silldorf & Levine's community association practice includes the representation of homeowners associations in condominiums, cooperatives, and master planned developments. We advise on a wide variety of legal matters including the enforceability of covenants and restrictions, revision of governing documents, employment issues, general counsel, reconstruction, developer transition analysis, and drafting legal opinions. Further, we assist associations in the collection of unpaid assessments up to and including the lien and foreclosure process.

Our construction defect practice includes representation of associations and single family homeowners in major litigation against respective builders and developers throughout Southern California. The law firm has a proven track record of success in which they have recovered more than \$150 million in verdicts and settlements for their clients. The partners of the firm, Howard Silldorf and Scott Levine assisted in drafting and negotiating the Calderon Act and SB 800.

Silldorf & Levine's Orange County office is located at 18101 Von Karman Avenue, 3rd Floor, Irvine, CA 92612, Phone: (949) 225-4470 or 1-800-811-5874.

Howard Silldorf to Speak at CAI National Conference

We are pleased to announce that Mr. Silldorf will be presenting at the upcoming CAI National Conference in Las Vegas (April 28-May 1, 2010). Mr. Silldorf's topic is "Keeping Your Association Healthy: Records Management to Reduce Association Cost and Liability." He will address how legal and membership requirements can be satisfied by proper record retention for all aspects of association management. The goal of the presentation is to help community managers strengthen the healthy of their associations and thus reduce liability risks and litigation costs.

Retainer Contracts & Hourly Fee Agreements for Community Association Legal Services

Silldorf & Levine offers a variety of legal service options for your association clients including both hourly agreements and retainer contracts. We can draft a unique fee agreement to provide specialized legal needs for your association.

About Our Law Firm

Silldorf & Levine, LLP is a full service community association law firm headquartered in San Diego, California.

The attorneys at Silldorf & Levine, LLP have combined legal experience of more than 50 years. During that time, we have successfully represented hundreds of homeowners and community associations in a variety of legal matters.

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Free Consultation

1-800-811-5874 and ask to speak with Christina Ciceron, Esq.. We are available for a no cost/no obligation site inspection of the property. We also provide a no cost/no obligation follow-up inspection with an expert if warranted in the law firm's opinion. Please be advised that any expert needs to be retained by or under the direction of an attorney and not independently otherwise the information of the expert is not privileged or confidential. If you are a potential client with a potential construction defect that is approaching a statutory deadline, we can prepare a FREE Calderon or SB 800 Notice to stop the running of your statute of limitations. Please call us at 1-800-811-5874. We look forward to assisting you!