

APLA Exchange

Investment property scams

We represent a couple of investors who bought investment properties on the Gold Coast after representations were made to them relating to the value of the property, income and tax benefits. The whole "deal" was organised by a marketing agent for the vendor in conjunction with a financial advisor/finance broker. Is any member investigating or conducting claims or in possession of any information?

Please contact **Travis Schultz** at Boyce Garrick, PO Box 9, Mooloolaba, Qld, 4557, **Phone** (07) 5444 1977, **Fax** (07) 5444 6122.

For NSW members

APLA NSW is seeking a member who is willing to be the contact person for Consumer Law. We are also seeking to have more active committee members in NSW.

Could those interested please contact **Kathy Thompson** at APLA,

phone (02) 9261 5859 **fax** (02) 9261 5859

or **Rebecca O'Connell** at Blessington Judd, **phone** (02) 8267 6000

Derailment of Amtrak City of New Orleans Train

Our firm is involved in the legal actions arising from the derailment of the Amtrak City of New Orleans train which occurred near Bourbonnais, Illinois, on March 15, 1999, which claimed the lives of 11 people and injured over 100.

Two women on board the accident train were from Melbourne. Their names are Donna Griffiths and Daniella Bauman, each being 28-year-old graphic designers.

Should you be contacted by these women, or know who may be representing them, we would be happy to inform you of the status of the litigation and provide assistance in any manner needed. In addition to being involved in this case, Mr Nolan is the current chairperson of the Railroad Law Section of ATLA.

Please contact: **Thomas J. Ellis** of the Nolan Law Group, One North LaSalle Street, 35th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60602. **Phone** (+312) 372-5400 **Fax** (+312) 372-0558

Constructive/unfair dismissal

I would like to hear from any member on the success or otherwise of unfair dismissal litigation commenced post the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* (preferably where the employee was a former permanent Australian Government Public Servant) where the action bypassed the Australian Industrial Relations Commission and was instituted in the Federal Court. In particular comment is sought concerning any jurisdictional issues and quantification of loss.

Please contact **Rohan Hamilton**, **phone** (03) 9608 8735, **fax** (03) 9608 8968.

Livestock transportation standards

We act for the widow of a driver killed in an accident involving a tray truck transporting poultry.

The livestock was being transported by a 1977 International 1830A Tray truck. The truck collided with a concrete barrier and several large steel crates/cages (approximately 6ft by 2ft) fell from the truck onto our client's vehicle. The crates/cages were secured by means of a "D" shackle/turn-buckle and hook assembly.

Does any member have any information relating to the standards required for the securing of loads of livestock and/or the transporting of loads of livestock? Is any member aware of any findings or recommendations made following the occurrence of similar situations?

Please contact **Garry Mann** or **Louise Hanby D'Wynn** of Richmond & Bennison, Level 2, 116 Hardware Street, Melbourne, VIC, 3000. **phone** (03) 9670 0488 **fax** (03) 9670 6096

APLA Exchange gives APLA members a chance to share information on special issues or products relevant to their litigation.

If you would like to submit a request to *APLA Exchange*, contact **Jane Staley** at APLA on **phone** 02 9261 5277

APLA

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Full conference program now available. If you have not received your copy or would like to be sent additional copies for colleagues, please contact **Michael Trinidad** at Yarran & Baxter, **phone** 02 9904 8200, **email** mtrinidad@yarranbaxter.com