

January 07, 2013 By Heather Murtagh Daily Journal Staff

Homeowners Sue Millbrae Condo Developer

Shoddy construction is causing cracks, water damage and structural issues at a 105-unit condominium development that opened in Millbrae in 2006, according to a lawsuit filed against the developers this week.

The 88 South Broadway condos went on the market in late 2006. More than 100 two-bedroom homes ranging from 1,250 to 1,800 square feet were sold from \$795,000 to \$1.28 million, according to a 2007 San Mateo County real estate study. In addition to the two-bedroom homes, the building offers a gym, community room and secure key-card access. Construction of these luxury condos is subpar, according to a 22-page lawsuit filed Thursday on behalf of the residential homeowners association, 88 South Broadway Association.

Calls to the former management team, which is listed on the lawsuit, resulted in being forwarded to the Pauls Corporation in Colorado, which developed the property. No one at the Pauls Corporation was available to comment about the claim.

The construction violates building codes for residential homes, according to the lawsuit. In addition, temporary fixes were used to cover up larger problems which residents thought would be covered through the association's reserves, it reads.

Specifically, the association offers a 10-page exhibit listing problems with water intrusion, structural and soil issues and plumbing problems. Among the issues listed are: beams throughout the property are twisted; doors were not installed in a level manner; insulation is missing from some of the walls; water from the roof drains onto electrical boxes; and the washing machine water shut-off valves and drains are inaccessible.

The nonprofit association is suing for the cost to actually make the repairs, any relocation and storage necessary during that time, and any lost income from handling the case as well as legal costs.

