



THE SACRAMENTO BEE

The Miller Law Firm Recovers Nearly \$40 Million for San Francisco Homeowners Associations with Construction Defects

August 5, 2016

August 5, 2016 – San Francisco, California – The Miller Law Firm announces that \$39.57 Million has been awarded in the past 5 years alone to several San Francisco Homeowners Associations with construction defect claims, an indication that building defects in San Francisco are going to continue to be a reality.

The San Francisco mid and hi-rise buildings that were awarded these millions of dollars in defect repair funds were completed and sold between 2004 & 2012 during the huge building trend the city experienced, much like today's building frenzy. When the current Residential Development Pipeline report, published by the San Francisco Planning Department, identifies 110 Residential projects in San Francisco of 60 or more units that are under construction, approved or in the planning, design or conception stages, with 8000 homes on Treasure Island alone, construction defect claims will trail these building trends.

"Acute construction defects are often times the direct result of major building booms with developers racing to construct and sell, cutting corners and not meeting building standards requirements," states Thomas E. Miller, a 40-year veteran of the construction defect legal arena. "Associations are then forced to address major repair needs to meet their fiduciary duties."

Rachel Miller, Senior Partner of The Miller Law Firm, states, "When the San Francisco building department estimates that 50,000 new housing units will be added to the city's housing stock, boards of directors of homeowners associations should be aware that defects like garage leaks and plumbing breaks will be a reality and should be investigated timely, as California law only allows claims for up to 10 years from completion of the community."

However, consumers won't always have access to information on builders and contractors responsible for these claims. As Tom Miller adds, "Developers require confidentiality agreements that homeowners associations must sign when these cases are resolved, along with a full and lengthy release of all future claims. This gives consumers very little information on which developers have a record of shoddy construction. The good news is that these large builders and general contractors have insurance to pay for large scale recoveries to repair and restore these communities."

Highly reputable consumer advocates, The Miller Law Firm is celebrating 40 years in the construction defect arena representing Board of Directors and Homeowners Associations in claims against faulty construction. Maintaining the highest per-unit record of recoveries in the state of California, The Miller Law Firm was awarded the *National Litigator Award* by the Trial Lawyers Board of Regents the last two consecutive years for their recovery efforts on behalf of their Community Association clients. This recognition is presented to only the top 1% of attorneys in the nation and based strictly on tangible verdict & settlement dollar achievement.

Thomas E. Miller, Rachel M. Miller & Matthew T. Miller of The Miller Law Firm (<u>www.ConstructionDefects.com</u>) are the co-authors of, "Home and Condo Defects: A Consumer Guide to Faulty Construction," (Seven Locks Press, 2012), available online at <u>www.amazon.com</u>.