

Media Release

3 February 2016

Builder fined \$45,500 for negligence and incompetence

A builder whose work was so poor it constituted ‘gross negligence’ and ‘gross incompetence’ has been fined the maximum penalty and will not be able to operate as a registered builder for a minimum of three years.

At a Building Practitioners Board (BPB) inquiry held at the offices of the Victorian Building Authority (VBA) today (3 Feb), David Brayer, who operated as Statbay Pty Ltd, was accused of four allegations relating to the competency and standard of his work. Mr Brayer did not attend despite pleading not guilty.

The BPB found him guilty of all allegations, fined him the maximum of \$15,167 for each of three offences totalling \$45,501 and ordered to pay costs incidental to the inquiry of \$19,364.

Mr Brayer’s registration was also cancelled effective today and he was disqualified from applying to be a registered building practitioner for three years, which is the maximum disqualification period available.

Statbay Pty Ltd, under the Directorship of Mr Brayer, was the corporate builder contracted to build 69 townhouses in the Rangeview Estate in Diamond Creek.

A VBA investigation on behalf of the BPB found major defects in the buildings including to fire walls between rooms which could have caused a serious risk to life had a fire started.

Mr Brayer, as the registered builder, was responsible for ensuring all works were compliant with the Building Construction Code which he failed to do.

“The VBA welcomes the decision regarding the builder’s conduct and will continue to work with the Nillumbik Council to assist the owners in rectifying the defects in their homes,” said VBA CEO Prue Digby.

Mr Brayer has 60 days to appeal the BPB’s decision to VCAT.

ENDS

Media enquiries

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