Lacrosse Building Surveyor to Face Disciplinary Action

Following an extensive investigation, the Victorian Building Authority (VBA) has referred the relevant building surveyor (RBS), involved in the building of the Lacrosse Apartments in Melbourne’s Docklands for disciplinary action by the Building Practitioners Board (BPB).

On 25 November 2014, there was a fire at the Lacrosse building which resulted in the evacuation of all residents. The Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB) subsequently reviewed the cause of the fire and issued its Post Incident Analysis Report in April 2015. The MFB concluded that the external aluminium cladding on the building contributed to the spread of fire and did not comply with the Building Code of Australia (BCA), the VBA then launched its investigation.

The VBA investigation has led to the following allegation relating to the RBS, Anastasios Galanos being referred to the BPB:

- That the building surveyor breached the Building Act and Regulations and failed to carry out his work in a competent manner and to a professional standard in that he:
  - Could not have been satisfied that the building work would comply with the Building Act and Regulations when he issued the building permit; and

In the course of its investigation, evidence collected by the VBA confirms that the design of the external walls of the Lacrosse building did not comply with the requirements of the BCA. The VBA referred the conduct of the architect to the Architects Registration Board of Victoria (ARBV) which is the regulatory body responsible for the conduct and discipline of architects.

The VBA investigation into the conduct of other building practitioners involved in the Lacrosse building is continuing and is expected to conclude in coming weeks.

For information about the ARBV go to http://www.arbv.vic.gov.au/

For information about the BPB go to http://www.vba.vic.gov.au/building-practitioners-board

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