$72,000 in unpaid levy payments recovered

A building surveyor has paid more than $72,000 in overdue building permit levies after the Victorian Building Authority (VBA) took legal action to recover the money.

The building surveyor didn’t pass on money to the VBA that he had collected from his clients. The money was for building permits he issued in 2013.

The VBA took legal action to recover the unpaid amounts in February 2014 after the building surveyor failed to pass on $38,000 to the VBA. By the time he settled the overdue payments in May 2014, the total amount he owed had risen to more than $72,000.

VBA’s Compliance and Performance Director, Murray Smith, said the building surveyor will face the Building Practitioners Board for an inquiry into his actions.

“What building surveyors have responsibilities under the regulations and most do the right thing. But where they do the wrong thing, the VBA takes action,” Mr Smith said.

What is the building permit levy?
Building permit levies fund the building control system in Victoria. Anyone applying for a building permit for works costing more than $10,000 must pay a levy before the permit can be issued. This levy is collected by the building surveyor, who then forwards it to the VBA each month.

ENDS

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