

Media Release

For general release

11 November 2014

\$14,000 fine for non-compliant Whittlesea building works

A registered building practitioner has been fined more than \$14,000 for non-compliant works at a site in Whittlesea.

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) investigated Andrew John from Ringwood in relation to allegations at a site in Whittlesea and referred the matter to the Building Practitioners Board (BPB).

Mr John did not complete the building work so the homeowners amended their building permit and completed the project as owner-builders.

The allegations against Mr John were:

- Entering into a major domestic building contract which did not comply with the Domestic Building Contracts Act 1995
- Carrying out building work which was not in accordance with the relevant building permit
- Demanding and receiving a deposit of more than the percentage of the contract price he was entitled to receive under a major domestic building contract
- Failing to carry out building work in a competent manner and to a professional standard and therefore failing to comply with the Building Regulations

The allegations against Mr John were proven and he was fined \$14,436, ordered to pay costs and complete a course in Contracts & Legal Obligations within three months of expiry of the 60 day appeal period.

VBA's Director of Compliance and Performance Murray Smith advises that any consumers concerned about a building practitioner should check the Practitioner Disciplinary Register.

"The Practitioner Disciplinary Register lists practitioners who have been found guilty of misconduct by the BPB, details of the penalty handed down and the suburb or town in which the offence occurred" said Mr Smith.

"This register can be found on the VBA website and is a useful tool for homeowners searching for a registered building practitioner for their projects."

For more information on BPB functions or to view the Practitioner Disciplinary Register, visit www.vba.vic.gov.au

ENDS

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