

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

**ATTENTION:
ABS PIPE CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

TO ALL PERSONS WHO OWN RESIDENCES OR OTHER BUILDINGS CONTAINING ABS PIPE MANUFACTURED BY CERTAIN COMPANIES BETWEEN 1984 AND 1990

Your rights may be affected by proposed settlements in class action cases pending in Contra Costa County Superior Court, State of California, *ABS Pipe Cases II*, J.C.C.P. No. 3126

ABS pipe is rigid black plastic pipe used to drain sinks, tubs, showers, toilets, washing machines and dishwashers. Six class action complaints have been coordinated before the Honorable Mark B. Simons, Contra Costa County Superior Court, State of California, and allege that ABS pipe manufactured at certain times between 1984 and 1990 by Polaris Pipe Co. ("Polaris"), Gable Plastics, Inc. ("Gable"), Centaur Mfg., Inc. ("Centaur"), Centaur Marketing, Inc. a/k/a Phoenix Extrusion Co. ("Phoenix"), and Apache Plastics, Inc. ("Apache") is defective and may leak. The overwhelming majority of the allegedly defective ABS pipe at issue is located in the State of California. All defendants in this action deny all liability and deny that the ABS pipe at issue is defective. The Court has not yet ruled, one way or the other, on the correctness of plaintiffs' claims. In addition, the fact that your residence or building has ABS pipe manufactured by one or more of the defendant manufacturers does not mean that your residence or building has the allegedly defective ABS pipe at issue.

You may be entitled to repair or reimbursement for completed repairs if ABS pipe manufactured by one of the five manufacturers has leaked in a building you own.

The proposed settlements with each of the manufacturer defendants, the resin supplier Plastic Processing, Inc. ("PPI"), ABS pipe distributor Amfac Distribution Corp. ("Amfac"), and the International Association of Plumbing & Mechanical Officials ("IAPMO") make available approximately \$70 million to pay for repairs of leaking ABS pipe manufactured by the above-listed manufacturers between the years 1984 and 1990, damages resulting from such leaks, and reimbursement for qualified prior ABS pipe repairs, with proof of payment for such prior repairs. The settlement amounts are as follows: PPI (\$25 million); Polaris (\$25 million); Gable (\$16.13 million); IAPMO (\$2.875 million); Apache (\$2.4 million); Phoenix (\$1.5 million); Amfac (\$500,000); and Centaur (\$175,000). If you own a building with Apache or Polaris ABS pipe manufactured during 1984 through 1990, you may exclude yourself from those settlements. You may also exclude yourself from the Amfac settlement. If you want to be excluded (opt-out) from the Polaris, Apache or Amfac class settlements, you must let Settlement Class Counsel know by written notice postmarked on or before April 24, 1998. The last day to file and serve with the Court comments in support of or in opposition to any of the settlements is also April 24, 1998. The settlements with defendants PPI, Gable, Centaur, Phoenix, and IAPMO are mandatory, non-opt-out classes because these companies are either insolvent, bankrupt, out of business, or have limited assets and insurance. The PPI Settlement Class is California only. Settlement Class Counsel will seek an award of attorneys' fees of no more than 30% of the settlement funds made available to the plaintiff settlement classes. This notice is a summary only. For more detailed information, complete and mail the clip coupon or call:

1-888-644-7473

Internet: <http://www.abspipes.com/>

A hearing to consider the fairness of all settlements will be held May 14, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. in the Courtroom of Contra Costa County Superior Court Judge Mark B. Simons, located at 725 Court Street, Martinez, California 94553, with Referee Ellen S. James presiding. Judge Mark B. Simons will review the Referee's recommendation, findings, the hearing proceedings, and all written comments submitted to the Court in deciding whether to grant approval of the settlements. You may also contact Settlement Class Counsel for more information:

**Robert J. Nelson
Lieff, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein, LLP
275 Battery Street, 30th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94111**

**David M. Birka-White
Law Offices of David M. Birka-White
3240 Stone Valley Road West, Suite 102
Alamo, CA 94507**

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT OR THE CLERK'S OFFICE FOR INFORMATION

Referee Ellen S. James
Contra Costa County Superior Court
The Honorable Mark B. Simons
Contra Costa County Superior Court Judge

(CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE PLEASE PRINT)

ABS PIPE CASES II

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FORM

(This is not an Opt-Out Request)

I would like to have more detailed information about the proposed settlements mailed to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Tel No.: _____

ID Settlements: _____

MAIL THIS REQUEST TO:

ABS PIPE LITIGATION
P.O. BOX 4068
Portland, OR 97208-4068