

BORROWERS INTERVENE TO OBJECT TO BANK OF AMERICA SETTLEMENT

Barrett Law Group is leading a group of attorneys representing borrowers who intervened today in the Bank of America/Bank of New York Mellon litigation, objecting to the proposed settlement of the mortgage fraud litigation as collusive and harmful to the thousands of homeowners whose mortgages have been mishandled by Bank of America.

These borrowers simultaneously filed a separate class action complaint seeking an injunction to stop the implementation of the settlement, and to require the defendants to adopt servicing policies which meet industry standards and state and federal regulations.

The objection was accompanied by a searing report prepared by experts at the National Consumer Law Center, outlining the specific ways that the proposed settlement illegally harms thousands of borrowers, while making the mortgage crisis worse for Bank of America and the investors in its securitized loans.

"The Settlement Agreement, if allowed to proceed, will speed up foreclosures, perpetuate existing servicing abuses in the system, and undermine federal programs designed to stabilize the housing market," said the NCLR's Margot Sanders and Diane Thompson in their report.

Borrower attorney Keith Fleischman of the Fleischman Law Firm in New York City, said "Bank of America and Bank of New York Mellon are attempting to have the court bless a collusive deal which helps nobody, and wreaks terrible harm on the borrowers, whose rights and interests have been totally ignored by the big banks and the sophisticated investors who bought these mortgages."

Also representing the borrowers are nationally-respected lender fraud attorney Sheila Canavan of Moab, Utah, and Don Barrett of Lexington, Mississippi. Barrett was lead trial counsel in a successful national class action lender fraud trial against Lehman Brothers in California in 2003, and was a pioneer attorney in the successful attorneys general litigation against the tobacco industry in the late 1990's.