

CALIFORNIA

The Voice of the Independent Lodging Operator

SUMMER 2005

Lodging



Designing Rooms
with Personality

Guest Rooms with the
Comforts of Home

Is Leasing FF&E
Right For You?

The Question Is Not Whether You Get Money, It's How Much

VISA®/Mastercard® Class Action Settlement

From October 1992 through June 2003, VISA and MasterCard overcharged merchants for debit and credit card processing services. In June 2003, the credit card companies reached a settlement agreeing to pay these merchants \$3.05 billion. That includes you.

Class-action settlements are fraught with ambiguities and obstacles class members must navigate in order to receive their share. Slow communications, swift deadlines and filing forms written in legalese help contribute to an average of only 10 percent of claimants filing for any settlement. This is particularly important in the Visa MasterCard settlement since the law requires that the entire \$3.05 billion be distributed to claimants. To achieve this, all unclaimed portions of the settlement money will be split amongst the class members who take the time to file. Remember, if you do not file, you get NOTHING.

CLIA Partners with Spectrum for a Fast, Easy Solution

It can be complicated for businesses to file claims, so CLIA is working with Spectrum Settlement Recovery, a CLIA-endorsed provider, to make it easier for you to receive your share. Spectrum has developed a program which maximizes your fund recovery while minimizing the work required from you – freeing you up to do the work you need to do to run your business.

1. Sign Up

In order to begin, you must complete a short registration agreement allowing Spectrum to file on your behalf, and a Letter of Agency giving Spectrum the legal authority to act on your behalf for this specific case.

2. Complete and Return the Claim Questionnaire

This questionnaire will be sent to you via fax or e-mail. This questionnaire will supply Spectrum with all of the pertinent information necessary for the research and filing of your claim.

3. Maximize the Claim

The settlement's Plan of Allocation allows for a dozen different categories of claims, each requiring multiple reports. Based on the questionnaire information, Spectrum will identify the best filing options to maximize your return from the settlement.

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A Tradition of Excellence
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Your Source for the CLIA sponsored
**Employment Practices
Liability Program**

1122 Laurel Lane, San Luis Obispo
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MORRIS & GARRITANO
INSURANCE SERVICES SINCE 1885
1122 LAUREL LANE

Calendar of Events

August 4, 2005

Hotels to HTMLs™
Maximizing Online Reservations
Embassy Suites Napa Valley
www.milestoneinternet.com

September 19, 2005

Lodging Industry Forum
Catamaran Resort Hotel - San Diego

9:00 – 11:30

Sexual Harassment Seminar
*Labor Attorneys Mark Spring and
Dave Carothers, Carlton, DiSante
& Freudenberger*

11:30 – Noon

Networking Luncheon
Legislative and Industry Update
*Mike Belote, CLIA Lobbyist
Rick Lawrence, CLIA President/CEO
Terry Westrope, CLIA Board Chair*
Sexual Harassment Seminar
satisfies the mandated two-hour
training required for supervisors
by January 1, 2006.

Cost: \$75 Members, \$100
nonmembers (lunch included).
Luncheon only is \$25/\$30 – learn
how legislation at the State Capitol
and trends in the industry may impact
your properties. Stay for door prizes.

Sponsors: chic-hotels, Cypress
Apparel, Spectrum Settlement
Recovery, State Fund

Reservations required.
www.clia.org or (916) 447-6565

November 8-9, 2005

California Lodging Expo®
& Conference
The Westin Santa Clara
www.lodgingexpo.org

February 12-15, 2006

California Travel Market
San Francisco and Sacramento
www.caltia.com

March 22-24, 2006

AAHOA Annual
Convention & Trade Show
Las Vegas
www.aahoa.com/convention

March 26-30, 2006

California Conference on Tourism
Disneyland Resort, Anaheim
www.caltia.com

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4. File

Spectrum leverages years of experience as settlement claims specialists to draft claims which result in unchallenged payouts. On the rare occasion that an administrator questions a claim, Spectrum acts as your advocate, responding quickly with additional information.

No Upfront Charges

The Spectrum service is based entirely on contingency. There are no upfront charges to you. Spectrum's fee is 30 percent of your approved claim. ☘

For more information, contact *Christin Anderson, Spectrum Channel Sales Representative*, at (800) 530-5520, ext. 272 or e-mail CLIA@spectrumsettlement.com or visit www.spectrumsettlement.com.

Miller & Fanwick, LLP

Strategic Planning & Transactional Law



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- ◆ Tax Strategies; 1031 Tax-Deferred Exchanges
- ◆ Development and Construction Agreements
- ◆ Franchise Agreements & Dispute Resolution
- ◆ Management Agreements
- ◆ Food & Beverage Operations
- ◆ Restaurant and Retail Leasing
- ◆ Insurance Policy Review
- ◆ Employment Matters
- ◆ ADA and Prop. 65 Claims

Allied Members: CLIA; AAHOA; AHLA; CHLA

For further information, contact: Mitch Miller, mmiller@mflaw.com or

(650) 566-2290