

For more information, contact
Andy Gallagher at (304) 415-4187
or andy@wvhi.org

Dec. 1, 2011

Arizona company fined, license denied; nine other licenses approved

CHARLESTON -- State regulators fined an unlicensed Arizona manufactured housing company \$1,000 for a second time Thursday then rejected its application for a retail license.

The unanimous West Virginia Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Board said Alta Cima Corp., doing business as Factory Expo Home Centers, of Chandler, Ariz., was "not willing to have a physical presence in West Virginia and not willing to properly inform consumers about the risks."

The company was fined under a cease and desist order issued on an Aug. 22 complaint by a dealer after the manufacturer had offered to sell a home to the retailer. The board issued a cease and desist order on June 7 to the same company and fined it \$1,000 at that time for selling without being licensed. It paid the fine.

The board, which regulates the manufactured housing business in West Virginia, issued licenses to three other retailers: Double T Homes Inc. of Berkeley Springs; Boone Homes, Inc., of Madison; and Oakwood Homes of Wytheville, Va.

The panel approved licenses for six contractors, five of whom previously were in business in the state, but had not renewed their licenses. The company are: T&M Cooling & Heating, LLC, of Clarksburg; Summit Air Conditioning/Heating of Gallipolis, Ohio; JEES Mobile Home Sets of Scarbro; Charles J. Johnson Jr., doing business as Diggerman, of Reedsville; Fire & Ice Home Comfort Systems, Inc., of Falling Waters, each of which had been licensed previously; and Thelma Fitzwater, doing business as K Sets, of Crab Orchard.

The board levied fines of \$3,250 against nine companies, four of which are out of business. It reprimanded two others. They were accused of failing to install homes to federal or state standards or failing to complete warranty obligations.

Three claims related to those defunct companies were sent to the recovery fund to complete work. The claims totaled \$19,120. The industry voluntary established the fund, which employs no taxpayer funds, to pay for homes unfinished when a company goes out of business. The recovery fund totals \$1.5 million.

Another 24 companies were fined a total of \$1,800 for failing to complete state-required quarterly reports detailing their activity.

The board set its next meeting for 10 a.m. March 29.