Orange County, California Small Business Man Battles Corporate Greed – and Wins!

By: Callahan & Blaine

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Shortly after <u>selling his Orange County, California appliance business</u> to BAS Appliance Gallery (a subsidiary of Champ Industries of Houston, Texas), Ray Harmon discovered that the large corporation had no intention of paying nearly a million dollars that was still due on the purchase price.

Harmon decided to take on the corporation, and filed suit in Orange County Superior Court. Harmon knew that the case would not be easy, and that he was fighting a foe with much greater resources than he had, but he felt corporate greed and deceit were worth fighting against. After over two years of difficult and exhausting litigation, Harmon finally had his day in court and was awarded nearly \$1 million by Judge James Brooks of the Orange County Superior Court.

Callahan & Blaine proved that BAS had plotted to obtain Harmon's appliance business by paying only the down payment, and then skipping out of the remaining million dollars due on the purchase price through the use of deceptive accounting practices and manipulation of the contract language.

The decision to engage in a court battle with the much larger BAS Appliance Gallery turned out to be an expensive and stressful decision for Mr. Harmon, but he feels he dealt a blow against the kind of corporate greed and deceit which has been too prevalent in the business world.

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