



## **Media Advisory**

July 21, 2014

### Contact:

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## **HOME and other Civil Rights Organizations File Housing Discrimination Complaint against Fannie Mae Contractor Cyprexx**

*Complaint Includes Richmond, Baltimore, Kansas City, and Orlando*

**\*\*\*News Conference Call Tuesday, July 22 at 11:00 am EDT\*\*\***

Click here: <http://bit.ly/cyprexx> to register for the news conference

On Tuesday, July 22, Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) of Virginia, the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA), and Fair Housing Continuum in Florida will hold an online news conference to announce a federal housing discrimination complaint against Cyprexx Services, LLC, headquartered in Brandon, Fla.

Cyprexx is a major contractor employed by Fannie Mae to maintain Fannie's foreclosed homes. This complaint, which will be filed with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, is a result of an investigation which uncovered how Cyprexx failed to properly maintain Real Estate Owned (REO) properties in African American and Latino neighborhoods in Richmond, Va, Baltimore, Md., Kansas City, Mo./Kan., and Orlando, Fla.

NFHA's investigation of Fannie Mae-owned homes in major U.S. cities nationwide alleges a striking pattern of discrimination in the treatment of REO properties, where Fannie Mae's contractors maintain and market foreclosed properties in white communities in a far superior manner to foreclosed properties in communities of color. NFHA and its members have now filed complaints against all of three of Fannie Mae's field service vendors alleging discriminatory treatment of homes in communities of color. Complaints are pending against Safeguard and Asset Management Specialist, Inc.

### **WHAT:**

News conference to discuss findings of an investigation into Fannie Mae contractor Cyprexx alleging discriminatory treatment of REO properties in Baltimore, Md., Kansas City, Mo./Kan., Orlando, Fla., and Richmond, Va.

### **WHO:**

**Heather Crislip**, President, Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) of Virginia (Richmond)

**Shanna Smith**, President and CEO, National Fair Housing Alliance (Baltimore, Kansas City)

**David Baade**, President and CEO, Fair Housing Continuum (Orlando)

**Jean Zachariasiewicz**, Associate, Relman, Dane & Colfax PLLC

**WHEN:** Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 am EDT