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WOMEN BRING SUIT AGAINST TRUMP VILLAGE AND PRESIDENT OF CO-OP BOARD FOR AGE DISCRIMINATION

RITA PORTNAYA, age 62 and ANNA RICHTER, age 61, have brought a lawsuit in Kings County Supreme Court for age discrimination. Trump Village Section 4 is a residential housing cooperative in Brooklyn, New York. Also named in the lawsuit were Douglas Elliman Property Management and Igor Oberman, President of the Board of Directors.

According to the suit, Portnaya and Richter, long time employees of Trump Village as bookkeeper and an administrative assistant, were harassed, verbally abused and intimidated for the purpose of replacing them with a more youthful staff. A new, “young and hot manager” was hired and the office staff was replaced by younger faces. Younger new staff and the young good looking manager would be more attractive to potential buyers at Trump Village. Both women, who had no performance issues, were escorted out of the building by security guards.

Igor Oberman, President of the Board of Directors, was named as an aider and abettor in violation of the Human Rights Law of the City of New York. Oberman is a lawyer and currently works as an Administrative Law Judge with the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission. He has also worked as a liason with the Brooklyn Borough President’s Office.

Portnaya and Richter seek damages for loss of income and benefits, emotional distress and for punitive damages. Neither woman has yet to find employment.

Portnaya and Richter hired employment and civil rights attorney, Philip Taubman, of TAUBMAN KIMELMAN & SOROKA LLP. who commenced suit.