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## **OPES PRIME VICTIMS FACE NEW THREAT**

Contrary to assurances from the CEO of the ANZ bank that it was actively seeking a settlement for Opes Prime victims, letters of demand are now being sent by ANZ-appointed receivers Deloitte to Opes Prime victims demanding payment of substantial sums just before Christmas.

The coordinated letters are arriving in the letter boxes of Opes Prime victims who have already suffered greatly as a consequence of the financial collapse.

The letters demand payment (in some cases of millions of dollars) or threaten legal action. They have not been explicit about the consequences of failure to pay but the implied threat of legal action is clear.

The letters state that the demand for payment is predicated on agreements which the class action being conducted by Slater & Gordon alleges are void and should have no effect.

The Receivers' action is clearly premature for those who have taken action against ANZ seeking declarations that the agreements are void.

Slater & Gordon believe those who are members of the class action will have a clear basis for arguing that any legal proceeding that may eventually be taken by Deloitte on behalf of ANZ should be stayed (stopped) until the determination of the class action.

Those Opes Prime victims who are seeking to join the class action or respond to a Deloitte letter of demand should contact Slater & Gordon immediately on 1800 555 777.

Slater & Gordon head of class actions, James Higgins said that the premature demand for money was clearly causing further distress to Opes Prime victims and should be immediately withdrawn until the Federal Court of Australia had properly determined the matters which were before it.

"This is a new low in what has been a dreadful year for the victims of Opes Prime and the ANZ."

### **For more information**

James Higgins, Slater & Gordon

(03) 9602 6888

Andrew Taylor (media liaison)

0411 156 797

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