Bulletin Board Complaint

Newport Financial Partners, Newport Beach, California

(One of the Leasing Gypsies from Southern California?)

http://leasingnews.org/items/covered_wagon.gif

Repeated telephone calls from several different numbers as well as emails from several different email carriers were sent since November 3rd, 2010, to "Nick Allen" and George Bojorkuez at Newport Financial Partners with no response to the complaint regarding a lease signed February 24, 2010 by Pacific Wire Group, which included a check for $3,350.88 for first and last and "$695 for documentation and service." In April, 2010, a "Lease Cancellation" agreement was to be sent that Newport Financial Partners would keep the $695.00 and the rest returned. It was not sent until May. Correspondence shows the agreement was signed and accepted by the party who made the complaint on May 4th, 2010. Then for 90 days Pacific Wire Group asked where is Robin Crist, President, Pacific Wire Group, 2201 'R' Street NW, Auburn, Washington, 98001 wrote a demand letter for the return of $2655.88 on September 19, 2010 and sent via UPS, receiving a notification the UPS letter was delivered to the party address and signed by Brister. on September 20, 2010. What he didn't know, it had been delivered to a UPS store, then put into the Newport Financial Partner mailbox.

Website and print off their credit application, lease contract, correspondence gives their address as 2549 B Eastbluff Drive #105, Newport Beach California, 92660. According to Google, this is really "The UPS Store" and the #105 is their mailbox. Here is the service from The UPS Store:

"At every location of The UPS Store, you can get a mailbox with a real street address and secure 24-hour access to mail and package deliveries. Additional services include mail forwarding, fax receiving and the ability to call in and check for new mail. You'll also find most of the postal products and services you need right at your neighborhood The UPS Store location."

The National Association of Equipment Leasing Brokers shows Newport Financial Partners as a "broker" member with George Bojorkuez as the representative.
George Bojorkuez, 25, Newport Coast, Orange County, CA

"I've been training with Natalia for more than two years now..."

George Bojorkuez MySpace:

(Says he is 27 years old here, and since 2006 has been a senior account manager at another company.)

Linkedin.com states:

Newport Financial Partners, LLC

Financial Services industry

June 2009 – Present (1 year 6 months)

Account Executive Nationwide Business Credit

Privately Held; Financial Services industry

2006 – 2009 (3 years)
Richard Nicholson is believed to be the Nick Allen who described himself as senior account executive at Newport Financial LLC.

His LinkedIn:

Partner
Newport Financial Partners, LLC
(Financial Services industry)
2009 — present (1 year)

Senior Account Executive
Nationwide Business Credit
(Privately Held; Financial Services industry)
2006 — 2009 (3 years)

There is no BBB report, a UCC search could find no discounting of leases, and D&B report confirmed the two representatives of the company. The company does not appear to have a California Lender's License.
In working over similar complaints, that have appeared here, with very good looking web sites, but addresses to retail operations which provide mail boxes, they appear to be part of a group described earlier as leasing gypsies and perhaps it should be Orange County, as that is where the majority of action seems to be occurring. The two named here came from Nationwide Business Credit. Leasing News has had other complaints from companies where the principals had worked for Nationwide. There have been name changes, too. Is this a coincidence?

It appears there is a group of brokers who primarily seek the $695 deposit as profit, and have moved into keeping advance rentals to support their lifestyles. They know by keeping this to clients over the United States in the relatively dollar amount under $5,000, they are safe as it is too expensive to litigate, plus they can close the web site down and start a new one. They do not register with the BBB so that the clients have no way of complaining. They also use fax marketing under a fake company name so they can avoid marketing lawsuits.

Leasing News has been told both the Orange County District Attorneys office and the FBI have been informed about the lease gypsy ring. One of the problems is the relatively small dollar amounts, but collectively the dollar amount is getting much larger. Of course, if it is $3,350.88 out of your paycheck, it won’t seem “small.”