

Dear Sir,

I am writing regarding the parliamentary enquiry into Astara. I attended the morning in Thiroul and wish to put forward the point of view of mine and my partners. We are both 50 years of age, Denise is a nurse and I am a coal miner. We decided 4 years ago to see a financial planner to help us grow our wealth into retirement, not to amass a fortune but to be comfortable. We borrowed \$144,000 which ended up in Astara. We also put \$60,000 of our super in there, we are now \$200,000 financially worse off.

In my job and indeed in Denise's job if we make a mistake we are held accountable. APRHA and ASICS should be held accountable for their mistakes.

Sir we invested our money thinking that the Australian Government Departments could ensure that good hard working Australian's money could not be stolen by criminals. APRHA knew for years about Richards and Flader and did nothing. I am not asking you to give me my money back! I am asking you to get our money back from the bastards who have stolen it. We cannot afford to take civil action against these criminals, we have very little money left to fight them if our class action with M & K Lawyers does not get off the ground.

I have travelled to China which now Governs Hong Kong and in those years the penalty for stealing from a foreigner was death by hanging. The Australian Government has, since the Gough Whitlam years, had a very strong relationship with China. Surely our Government can use this friendship in some way to help extradite these criminals who have stolen our money back to Australia to be dealt with. The money must be somewhere, whether we were self-managed or not does not matter, as the question was asked at the enquiry, both sides of the super field were recommending this product. We see no difference as to whether it was super or investing, APRHA and ASICS were at fault here. Can you please help some of the constituents. Also send a strong message that loyal patriotic Australians will be looked after by their elected Government and the Government of the day will not tolerate them being the victims of international crime gangs. We were only involved in this scam for several months before it went into collapse. APRHA & ASICS knew for several years and sat on their hands, our investment monies are gone we need you to attempt to get them back for us.

The Government and people of Australia give and donate moneys all over the world when there is some sort of crisis whether it be Tsunamis, Earth Quakes or famine. The people of Wollongong who are involved in this scam are in crisis we need your help!