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Contractors Pay \$2.3 Million to Settle Case Over Condo Restoration in HudsonSuits & Deals

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Two contractors paid \$2.3 million as of July 3 to resolve claims over an allegedly faulty restoration job on a condominium building in *Harmon Cove Towers v. Falcon Engineering*.

Harmon Cove Towers I Community Association contracted with Falcon Engineering and Castle Restoration & Construction in 2006 to fix problems with concrete falling from the “eyebrows”—the protruding areas below each balcony—of the 562-unit building located along the Hackensack River in Secaucus, said its lawyer, **John Schepisi** of **Schepisi & McLaughlin** in Englewood Cliffs.

Castle, of Long Island City, was to do the work while Falcon, of Bridgewater, was to design and supervise the project, Schepisi said.

After completion in 2008, it was discovered that water was entering the building where the work was done. The association sued both contractors, alleging that the construction damaged the waterproofing.

The case was ready for trial in Hudson County Superior Court but ongoing mediation with **Jack Margulies** of **Margulies Wind** in Jersey City resolved it for \$2.3 million on May 2. The breakdown is \$1.95 million from Falcon and \$350,000 from Castle, said Schepisi.

The final check was received on July 3, he said.

A press release from the association's board announcing the deal said it covered the cost of the repair plus some related engineering, professional and legal costs.

Castle counsel **Steven Bardsley**, of **Powell Trachtman Logan Carrle & Lombardo** in King of Prussia, Pa., confirmed the settlement and said the plaintiff initially demanded \$12 million.

Falcon's lawyer, **Jeffrey Intravatola**, of **Hoagland Longo Moran Dunst & Doukas** in New Brunswick, N.J., could not be reached by press time.

— *By Mary Pat Gallagher*