

JURY GETS IT RIGHT. DON'T TAKE WHAT IS NOT YOURS!

In March 2005, our attorneys obtained a damages award of \$4.1 Million for our client's \$600,000 investment in a real estate partnership, a nearly seven-fold increase in value.

The defendant had promised our client that, in exchange for contributing \$600,000 as seed money for the real estate partnership, he would own a proportional share of the partnership. However, after substantial profits accumulated from buying, fixing up and doing tax-free §1031 exchanges, the defendant refused to acknowledge the partnership, account to our client, or distribute any profits to him.

Following a hard-fought, six-week jury trial in which the defendant was represented by a very articulate and prominent defense attorney from a large Orange County law firm, the 12-member jury deliberated and awarded damages of \$3.1 million to our client. The judge then awarded an additional \$1 million to our client for costs and prejudgment interest, for a total monetary award of \$4.1 million.

Following this successful trial result, our client was very happy. Mr. Greenwald stated: "I am very pleased with the verdict because it clearly sends a message that when you take someone's money to invest, be careful, treat the investor fairly and do not take what is not yours."