

July, 2012

Smoking issues top concerns at Condo Seminars

State Rep Sara Feigenholtz (D-Chicago) concluded a three part seminar for condominium associations.

The seminars were in partnership with John H. Bickley III of Kovitz, Shifrin & Nesbit, a firm specializing in condominium law that represents well over 3,000 associations in the Chicago area. Over the course of three weeks, attendees learned about associations' legal rights in collecting assessments and foreclosures, establishing rules and regulations, and implementing smoking bans.

For Feigenholtz, the smoking ban hits close to home. During the spring legislative session, she introduced House Bill 4134 to codify an association's right to ban smoking in private units. Bickley agrees that condominium associations already have this right, although it is not stated explicitly in Illinois law.

"The smoking issue is a huge concern for board members and residents living in multi-unit buildings," said Feigenholtz. "The health risks of second hand smoke are undeniable, and the ventilation systems of these older buildings promote the spread of smoke throughout the building. It is obvious from these seminars that residents are very interested in the proposals and I plan to continue working on them."

Feigenholtz can be reached at (773)296-4141 or sara@staterep-sara.com.