

Fortress International

Our law firm, Remedies at Law, first came into contact with the founders of Fortress International in about 1999. They came into our office seeking assistance of Counsel for the common law trust work they were doing. Having already entered into a number of trust agreements with their clients, they felt that they needed some additional support.

They had been searching all over the country for competent legal support and representation for their trust program. The results of their searching continually pointed to Remedies at Law. They reported to us that we were well known among many circles, both nationally and internationally, and came highly recommended.

After a careful examination of their program, it was our studied opinion that they would need to make some major adjustments to avoid future problems. We told them that we would not get involved if those changes were not made. We explained to them in detail where their program was faulty and made suggestions for correcting each problem. They authorized us to get to work on the upgrading immediately.

Only two or three of their clients refused to upgrade, presumably because they did not want their financial affairs rearranged according to their own profession of faith. Their interest in a trust was apparently for personal asset protection and estate planning. We at Remedies at Law do not offer such secular services and Fortress International agreed not to either. We are a common law commercial and ecclesiastical law firm and only get involved in matters relating to Religious Liberty and fulfilling the Great Commission to the Church.

Since all of the Fortress International clients were professed Christians, they qualified to serve as managers for group or personal ministries of the Church. We discovered much later that most, if not all of them, had heavily invested in schemes such as Znetix, Health Maintenance Centers, and Cascade Pointe; the largest stock scam to ever hit the Pacific Northwest amounting to nearly one hundred million dollars. They had participated in the Fortress International trust program in preparation for receiving a huge return on their investment which, of course, never happened.

At the time the upgrading began, John and Candace Sinclair had exclusive control and responsibility of Fortress International. We are grateful for the opportunity we had to disciple the Sinclairs and their clients during those years. It was our privilege to teach Biblical principles and share the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ to some for the first time. During this time we developed a safe and lawful program for Fortress International to offer. We did not manage that program or any of the ministerial trusts themselves; all requests for setting up trusts, wills, foundations or corporations were referred to Fortress International to act upon. In exchange for those referrals, and the extensive training and legal support that we provided, Fortress International agreed to give us a commission from the payment for every new Ministerial Trust they handled.

We discovered later that, even though we had lived up to our end of the arrangement, developed a safe and lawful program for them to offer, worked tirelessly during those years of upgrading at little or no compensation, provided the required training, other support and followup, many of the Ministerial Trusts they prepared were serviced without our knowledge, and without the agreed commissions paid to us.

After the last trust was successfully upgraded, in about January of 2002, John Sinclair offered to sell Fortress International to Remedies at Law. We declined the offer. They also asked us to look over another program that they told us they were only thinking of getting involved in. Now that Znetix had fallen through, the Sinclairs had already gotten involved in another scam through Pinnacle Quest International and were attempting to lure us into it with them. It was a "debt elimination" program that promised to get people out of their mortgages and other debts by using clever twists of logic. We call this, "How to get out of debt by pretending that it doesn't exist."

Remedies at Law never did purchase or otherwise obtain Fortress International, but we did agree to conditions upon which Remedies at law would take over the obligation of providing future service for its Ministerial Trusts. We discovered later that John and Candace then contacted their clients to solicit optional annual service fees from them in advance, with no intention of ever providing the service they were being paid for.

The last agreement between Fortress International and Remedies at Law stipulated that John and Candace Sinclair would resign from their positions as directors of the trustee corporations for Ministerial Trusts, and assign those positions to Glen Stoll, Director and General Counsel of Remedies at Law. That transfer took place in 2002. It was also stipulated that all client files and contact information would be surrendered to Remedies at Law for returning to each client. It is now obvious that such task was never completed. We have been informed that John and Candace continued to contact their former clients for promoting one scam or another. We have a Non-disclosure Agreement with them that they appear to have violated as well.

At the time of this writing, we are receiving reports that John and Candace are calling former Fortress International clients and advising them not to associate with Remedies at Law. We are told that they are directing them to contact a specific CPA, who is actually an IRS enrolled agent, divulge information, confess wrong doing, and settle accounts. Such is the behavior of people who have been caught doing wrong and are now bargaining their way out of trouble by serving as informants.