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SEPTEMBER 2012

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SO LUXE

BY MERILEE KERN



CAESARS PALACE OCTAVIUS TOWER

Vegas vacation opulence

Earlier this year, Caesars Palace celebrated the grand opening of its luxurious new Octavius Tower—its sixth hotel tower that brings overall availability at the property up to nearly 4,000 rooms and suites. The tower has already proven to be a high-demand destination, which is understandable given that Caesars Palace has long maintained one of the highest regular occupancy rates in Las Vegas, even during the recent economic downturn.

While it's seamlessly integrated into the resort at large, the Octavius Tower stands majestically as its own 23-floor boutique, non-gaming hotel with its own private valet entrance and separate lobby and registration desk. The tower features 668 lavishly appointed rooms, which includes 62 suites of varying sizes and layouts, as well as three luxury villas. All boast today's top technology and a wealth of amenities.

Starting at 550 square feet, each room looks and feels spacious. The décor is rife with relaxing earth tones punctuated with dramatic splashes of color. The mix of textures throughout the space is notable, and includes cool marble floors, plush patterned carpets, dark wood, chrome, stone, granite, and velvet furniture and upholstery. Beds are king-sized and come replete with plush pillow-top mattresses and soft linens. Each of the



PLACES

oversized bathrooms includes large whirlpool tubs and separate glass showers—some with multiple showerheads—as well as complimentary Gilcrest & Soames bath products. My room during a recent stay included a sitting area and large floor-to-ceiling window panels, offering spectacular mountain views. Suites at the Octavius Tower vary, with categories that include Parlor, Royal, Senator and Emperor, which add further square footage and separate rooms. There are also 20 penthouses of varying sizes.

For those who seek the ultimate Las Vegas vacation experience and can benefit from a bit more elbow room, the tower boasts three elite villas that each average a stunning 8,800 square feet. No expense was spared and no detail left un-

tended to in these architectural masterpieces. The opulent appointments include imported marble, inlaid wood floors, hand-painted wall and ceiling murals, wood and stone archways and contemporary artwork. The villas also feature a private elevator, a billiards room, a home entertainment theater, steam mist showers, fully integrated audio and visual systems to connect entertainment to every room, and an outside private terrace with a spa tub and fire pit. Separate butler and concierge services are provided for each villa to ensure around-the-clock, personalized attention to a guest's every whim and wish.

Perhaps Caesars Palace spokesperson Ramesh Sadhwani says it best, noting that, "Caesars Palace is forever tied to many profound and historic events, yet continues to raise the bar, pushing the industry to higher standards with its continuous innovation and progressive objectives. The current renaissance led by Caesars Palace positions the resort as a frontrunner on the Las Vegas

Strip, maintaining its image as a leading, world-class destination resort." Indeed.

"The Luxe List" executive editor Merilee Kern scours the luxury marketplace for exemplary travel experiences, extraordinary events, and notable products and services. Submissions are accepted at www.luxelist-reviews.com. Follow her on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/luxelisteditor> and Facebook at www.facebook.com/theluxelist.



Legal Notes



ARIZONA MORTGAGE FRAUD: ARE MAX SENTENCES BECOMING THE NORM?

Written By Ashley D. Adams

Arizona criminal defense attorneys are concerned by the number of defendants that are receiving maximum sentences for mortgage fraud. A Mesa minister recently received the maximum sentence of five years in prison after pleading guilty to a single conspiracy charge.

Clint Rogers admitted to using his church to facilitate a home-flipping scheme. Property flipping is the use of identity theft, straw borrowers, shell companies, and industry insiders to purchase properties and artificially inflate their values through **false appraisals**. The properties are then repurchased several times for higher prices.

During sentencing, Rogers argued that he should be eligible for probation and be sentenced to no more than six months in prison. He denied allegations that he was the mastermind behind the scheme, maintaining he was simply a "patsy." Rogers further claimed that he made significant down payments on the properties, of which "the total offsets exceed the amount of cash-back receipts, leaving an actual loss of zero." However, as evidenced by his stiff sentence, the court was not persuaded.

As this case highlights, the consequences of a mortgage fraud conviction can be severe, even if you are only convicted of a single charge.

If you have further questions about this issue, please contact Ashley D. Adams, PLC 480.219.1366 or aadams@azwhitecollarcrime.com, www.azwhitecollarcrime.com.

Ashley is a criminal defense attorney in Scottsdale and a former federal prosecutor.



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