Westmar University Alumni & Friends Association

Alumni Directory Alert! August 20, 2015

To our alumni who have ordered a Directory from Alumni Research, Inc. (ARI) and did not receive it.

We have just learned that on August 05, 2015, Alumni Research Inc. filed for bankruptcy under Chapter 7 of the Federal Bankruptcy Code, <u>case number 15-8051</u>, Florida Middle District Court CM/ECF, Tampa, FL.

The Bankruptcy Court concerns money which the company owes to other people. It would not normally cover the service or product that has been paid for by consumers. We, as individuals, have paid for the printed or on-line directory and thus there is no debt or obligation owed to us other than the product we paid for. You may file a claim for delivery of the "paid for" printed or on-line directory with the Florida Attorney General's Office to be included with their fraud investigation case.

The Alumni Association acted in good faith and we have been advised to direct all alumni who have purchased a directory from Alumni Research, Inc. to file a complaint with the Florida Attorney General's Office at: http://myfloridalegal.com/Contact.nsf/Contact?OpenForm&Section=Consumer Protection Division Or print, fill out and mail the complaint to the Florida Attorney General. The printable PDF version is available at: http://myfloridalegal.com/webfiles.nsf/WF/MRAY-8KMFXT/\$file/ConsumerComplaint.pdf, and includes the address to mail your complaint to. You will be asked for proof of your claim, such as a copy of a cancelled check, or receipt, or credit card statement. You also may call the hotline number at (866) 966-7226 for Florida residents or (850) 414-3990 for non-Florida residents.

If it is determined that no directories exist in a warehouse somewhere waiting to be distributed then all we have is a claim to get our money back and that is then a matter for the Bankruptcy Court and it will be necessary to file a Proof of Claim form for submission to the Bankruptcy Court. Proof of Claim forms for the United States Bankruptcy Court, Middle District of Florida can be filed electronically at

http://pacer.flmb.uscourts.gov/cmecf/proofofclaim.htm. The case number listed above should be entered on the form. The directory company's name and address are:

Alumni Research, Inc. 3333 US Highway 19 Holiday, FL 34691-1808

We apologize for this situation. We are ALL disappointed about the lack of a directory and the loss of the money we individually paid for the directory. Although the Alumni Association was in no way responsible for the directory, nor did we ever profit from it, we are terribly sorry that this problem occurred. This company had been in business since 1995 and successfully published a directory for WAFA in 2010. As a result, we never suspected there would be an issue with them publishing a directory in 2015.

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