August 30, 2012

The American Resort Development Association (ARDA) and the American Resort Development Association Resort Owner’s Association (ARDA-ROC) have recently learned of a company named the Resort Owners’ Association. This company contacts timeshare owners by phone or mail offering them a solution to eliminate their maintenance fees. [Click here (PDF) for an example of a direct mail solicitation from this company.] The Resort Owners’ Association is in no way affiliated with ARDA or ARDA-ROC. ARDA believes the Resort Owners’ Association is a transfer company which, for a significant fee, claims to transfer legal title from the timeshare owner into that of another entity.

In order to learn more about this business, an ARDA staff member called the Resort Owners’ Association and was given limited information about their activities. The representative on the phone stated we would need to attend an in-person sales presentation for details about their services. Consumers who called the number provided on the mailing material and attended the required presentation reported that the company making the presentation is actually Timeshare Cure (a “transfer company” based in California and operating under various names). The return address the company is using is an Orlando UPS Store (3208 East Colonial Dr, Ste. C, Orlando, FL).

ARDA urges owners to use caution if they are solicited by any company claiming to offer a way to eliminate their maintenance fee payments or to transfer ownership responsibilities for an upfront fee. To learn more about common scams in this area, please see ARDA’s Consumer Advisory on transfer companies.

For more information about timeshare ownership and tips to ensure a safe buying or selling experience, visit ARDA-ROC’s Timeshare Resale Resource Center.