

CAN YOU TOP THIS?

Unbelievable or outrageous true stories about everyday experiences in real estate management BY BARBARA HOLLAND, CPM® | ILLUSTRATION BY PAUL LUKAS



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MONKEY MOVES

ONE DAY WE RECEIVED A CALL FROM A RESIDENT CLAIMING SOMEONE HAD ACCIDENTALLY LEFT A MONKEY IN THE ELEVATOR. When we first received the call, we thought the resident was joking around with us and did not take his call seriously (and no it was not April 1). After receiving five additional calls, we reluctantly sent our maintenance technician to check out the elevator. Sure enough, there was a monkey. Our maintenance technician did not want to touch the monkey (you would not want to try to pick up a screaming monkey, either).

Since how to handle monkeys is not in our operating manuals, we contacted animal control to assist us. We placed a sign by the elevator door on each level that the elevator was out of service due to the monkey inside. Of course that caused more calls to come to the main office.



Before animal control reached the apartment community, the resident had already called to report that his monkey was missing.

“Father and son” were soon re-united. We then

reviewed our lease agreement to confirm that a monkey was not an accepted animal under the pet section and sent a letter informing the resident that he had a choice to continue living at our apartment community or vacating. The resident had raised his monkey from birth and would not part with him, so resident and monkey left the community.

This particular community actually had a couple issues with animals. A few months later, just when I thought there would be no more “monkeying” around with non-acceptable creatures, I got another surprise. I was riding in the elevator during a community inspection, when a resident suddenly entered the elevator car with the biggest python snake I have ever seen, wrapped around his body. I can tell you, I am not a snake fan. I could not jump off that elevator fast enough!

Think you can top this tale? Send your true stories to Markisan Naso at mnaso@irem.org.

