

Stayton, OR
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**Stayton homes for seniors
named in class action suit**

Lakeside Assisted Living & Cottages and Lakeside Cottages Retirement of Stayton are among 50 residential facilities operated by Sunwest Management of Salem named in a class action lawsuit filed Thursday in Multnomah County Circuit Court. 966

No residents from the Stayton facilities are named as plaintiffs in the suit at this time.

The suit was brought in behalf of Cathleen Naylor, 81, and Gwen Olmstead, 80, both residents of Sunwest-operated Deer Meadow Assisted Living in Sheridan.

The lawsuit states that Naylor and Olmstead signed contracts for services at Deer Meadow that were never provided. The lawsuit also charges the facility is in violation of state laws governing the operation of residential facilities. Naylor has been a resident of the home since February 2004 and Olmstead since January 2003.

"This is about broken promises for higher profits," stated lawyer Kathryn Stebner, who filed the lawsuit. "It's shameful that Sunwest is preying on our senior citizens and their families at such a vulnerable time."

The lawsuit claims that residents' contracts promise care and services of a certain quality. However, Stebner alleges the contracts fail to state that the facilities and

Sunwest Management cannot and do not provide those services.

Stebner is a San Francisco attorney who practices in Oregon and California.