

Project: FEMA Trailers
Client: Geiger, Laborde & Laperouse, L.L.C.

LBFG Staff:

- Donald B. Snell, PE - Principal Expert

The Problem:

Liberty Building Forensics Group® (Liberty) was retained to provide expert consulting services for a case that involved a claim against three manufacturers of the trailers provided by FEMA after Hurricane Katrina. These consulting services included forensic analysis of the trailer formerly occupied by one of the defendants.

The Solution:

Liberty conducted sophisticated air infiltration testing on typical FEMA trailers to determine causation of alleged formaldehyde and moisture problems. The analysis from this testing was used as a basis for Liberty's defense opinion on behalf of three trailer manufacturers. Liberty was able to show that there was sufficient ventilation to offset any alleged off-gassing and that there were no moisture related defects. Liberty employed animation based demonstratives to communicate our findings to the jury.

The Challenge:

80,000 Hurricane Katrina FEMA Trailers resulted in claims in Bellwether Trials concerning formaldehyde and moisture problems.

The Solution:

Liberty served as the Expert for the HVAC related claim for all 3 manufacturers.

The Results:

Case led to a highly favorable ruling for our client.

