

We insure you for
how you use your car.



you.insured
car home contents

QUOTE ONLINE NOW

media 140 Better Business with Social Media
transform your business with social media, a two day conference

"use social media to
increase your
bottom line"



in partnership with
Perth, 14/15 July
Edith Cowan University

Register

Carey charged over Westpoint collapse

AMANDA SAUNDERS, The West
Australian
June 28, 2011, 7:13 am

Recommend

2

Email

Print



The West Australian ©

Norm Carey is facing criminal charges more than five years after the \$400 million collapse of his Westpoint property empire.

Mr Carey and Westpoint's former financial controller, Graeme Rundle, were charged two months ago by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission with failing to act honestly as an officer of a corporation and gaining advantage through dishonesty as a director of a corporation.

However, publication of the proceedings were suppressed by the Perth Magistrate's Court until separate Westpoint charges against Mr Rundle were heard in NSW.

Last week, a jury in the District Court of NSW found Mr Rundle guilty of two counts of making a false statement with intent to obtain a financial advantage. He was granted conditional bail and will be sentenced in August.

Mr Carey, who co-founded and headed Westpoint, vowed to fight the latest charges.

"I say to ASIC, bring on the charges," he said yesterday.

"Let's expose the facts of this matter and you will be laughed out of court. It is just ludicrous."

Despite repeated requests since Friday, ASIC did not provide details of the charges.

However, Mr Carey said they related to the assignment of "a worthless option" over the Warnbro Fair shopping centre syndicate "that was fully disclosed in the original (syndicate) prospectus". He said the option was never exercised.

Mr Carey said investors in the Warnbro Fair Syndicate received a 350 per cent return when the shopping centre property was sold to Centro Properties Group for \$57 million in 2006.

"I don't think I've ever heard in Australian corporate history of somebody being charged when they deliver such a super return to investors," he said.

Mr Carey said ASIC was "using its powers improperly" and the charges were an attempt to thwart a damages case he and Westpoint investors had brought against ASIC for misfeasance in public office, set for trial in November.

"It is purely and simply a reaction from ASIC to try to undermine my credibility at a time when they are in a clash of the titans-type court case in Melbourne with me over causing the collapse of Westpoint," he said. "This is probably the most serious case in ASIC's history (brought against it)."

Mr Carey said he planned to lodge a complaint with the Commonwealth Ombudsman to "fully investigate ASIC" and its "improper investigation and prosecution process".

"One of the underlying principal of criminal charges like that is that they have to be brought at the first possible opportunity," he said.

Mr Rundle could not be contacted yesterday.

Follow [thewest.com.au](#) on Twitter

SPECIAL PROMOTION



Borrowing Power

Find out how much you can borrow.

[Read more.](#)

Australian Contact Centre Provider

Answering your business calls during after hours or overflow by 24/7.

www.linkq.com.au

Rate Detective

Income Protection Comparison & Extra 20% Off

RateDetective.com.au/Income-Protection-Comparison

Compare and apply for credit cards

Creditcard.com.au

www.CreditCard.com.au

Sponsored links

