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**Florida Home Builders Applaud State Investigation of Chinese Drywall**

**TALLAHASSEE** – The Florida Home Builders Association today commended the state attorney general’s decision to investigate complaints about Chinese-made drywall in homes built since 2005 and pledged its support of efforts to determine the source of the problem and potential impacts.

“We need to know where this apparently defective drywall was manufactured, where it was sold and how many homes are potentially affected,” said Jay Carlson, president of the Florida Home Builders Association and a Port Charlotte, Fla., builder. “We applaud Attorney General Bill McCollum’s prompt decision to investigate and to get Floridians the answers they deserve.”

Homeowners have reported foul odors and air conditioning-related problems in homes constructed with Chinese drywall, which is believed to have been imported into the U.S. between 2005 and 2008. Small- and large-volume builders have reported dozens of complaints primarily from customers in south and southwest Florida, which they are addressing directly with the homeowners. Several lawsuits have been filed against one known manufacturer of the product, Knauf Tianjin.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and Florida Department of Health have announced their own investigations to determine whether the Chinese drywall poses a threat to public safety or health.

“Any time homeowners start to question the safety of the products in their home, we have a serious problem that we need to address right away,” said Carlson. “We look forward to working with the attorney general and other governmental agencies to ensure that the manufacturers of any defective drywall products are identified and held responsible. Builders as well as homeowners are the victims.”

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**About FHBA:** The Florida Home Builders Association is a Tallahassee, Florida-based trade association representing more than 15,000 corporate members involved in Florida’s home building, remodeling and commercial construction industry. Known as “the voice of Florida’s housing industry,” FHBA is affiliated with 28 local home builders associations throughout Florida. Its subsidiaries include Florida Home Builders Insurance, Inc., which provides risk management and insurance services to members. FHBA was founded in 1949 as the state affiliate of the National Association of Home Builders. Visit us on the web at [www.fhba.com](http://www.fhba.com).

