



SITUATION #7 CASE STUDY

Commercial Property

Low Rents &
Unpaid Utilities

Corrected lease & utility problems - recovered thousands per yr

Problem:

Low Rents & Unpaid Utilities = Loss of Revenue. Heritage Square LLC, 1700 Post Road, Fairfield, CT, was losing money in their 32-tenant commercial shopping center. In 2000 the landlord ended up paying \$7,728 of the tenant's unbilled electric consumption. The bill was \$32,199 but the tenants' billing per their contracts only paid \$24,471.

This was as a result of the tenants not being billed for separate electrical usage in their leases and being charged only \$1.25 – \$1.75 per square foot. Even where some tenants were billed for electrical, the rates hadn't been increased for over 5 to 10 years.

Solution:

Russell Munz of Pyramid secured United Illuminating's guidance for billing \$2.50 per sq. foot in 2002. Over a 5 year period, when new tenants moved in, or existing tenants renewed their leases, Russell worked with Pyramid Broker, Brian Dornan, to correct the electrical charge in the lease provisions.

Results:

The landlord received \$3,121.26 over and above the electrical costs in 2003. And those results continued. By 12/31/2006 electric used by the tenants was \$31,874.39 while their reimbursement totaled \$32,825.48 – **a revenue increase of \$951.09 for the landlord and fair to the tenants who had previously paid less than their share of electric.**

How we did it summary...

Corrected lease and utility problems recovering \$1,000s in lost revenue each year.

- 1.) 32 tenant, 5 building, 45,000 sq. ft commercial shopping center in Fairfield with retail and office space
- 2.) Many small 2nd floor offices did not have separate electrical meters
- 3.) Leases did not bill for separate electrical use or had outdated low per square foot electrical charges
- 4.) Pyramid called United Illuminating and researched fair use charges for 2002 at \$2.50 per sq. ft. We adjusted leases for new tenants and those renewing leases over a 5 year period.
- 5.) **The client stopped losing money and saw a substantial revenue increase over a 5-year period.**