

Committee Secretary.  
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services.

My Submission;

I am a 60 year old widow, working as a carer, and had planned this year to retire and travel but now will be working until I am 65. Storm was highly recommended to me by a friend so I eventually went to see them, having interviews and attending a seminar, approx July 2007. Storm had a trip arranged, going through Italy and the Greek Islands and I was invited to go also, so I went. I spoke to many clients, all were satisfied with Storm, so on returning I signed u with confidence. I remember that during a meeting with all clients on the ship, Emmanuel saying to, spend like a millionaire and you will be one, or words to that effect. That should have been a warning. I asked the planners in Mackay how safe it was, and said I don't want to loose anything to which they replied, the world economy would have to crash to lose the money and they said that will never happen. They said there were a lot of buffers in place. When the marked continued to drop , about August 2008 I started to panic, going to see the planners often or phoning them

They said, Dawn it will never happen, everything is under control. They made me feel that I was a joke, and when I asked if other clients were worrying they said no. About one week before Storm crashed, I asked the male planner should I put one of my houses on the market. He looked at me quizicly and said why, you are still in positive territory. Shortly after I learned that I had lost 1.7 million dollars. The end result is I've sold my home on 20 acres of seaview which I had planned to subdivide, and will also have to sell a block of land to clear my debt. All I can say is Storm planners were well trained by Emmanuel to gain our trust and rip us off.