



Residents of 3650 Kingston Rd. were only allowed 30 minutes on Saturday, March 21, 2009 to remove some belongings and toss out rotting food.

## East-end condo residents file class-action lawsuit

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A class-action lawsuit has been launched on behalf of hundreds of Toronto residents who were forced out of an east-end condominium building after a startling incident earlier this month.

Residents of the building, located at 3650 Kingston Rd., were jolted out of their sleep around 2:30 a.m. on March 19, after a pair of apparent electrical explosions on the premises. The nine-storey building's electrical room was damaged, as was an outdoor transformer.

Authorities say residents cannot go home until necessary repairs are completed and it is safe for them to return, though a specific return date has not yet been determined.

The lawsuit, which was filed Friday, seeks damages from Toronto Hydro and other defendants, who the plaintiffs allege are liable for causing the situation that residents have found themselves in.

The allegations have not been proven in court. Toronto Hydro spokesperson Denise Attalah said the company was not in a position to comment on the lawsuit because it is before the court.

The plaintiffs are being represented by Ted Charney of Falconer Charney LLP and Sharon Strosberg of Sutts, Strosberg LLP, who say that residents have been told they will not be able to return home for at least four weeks.

In a statement released on Friday, Charney said the lawsuit "is intended to compensate the class members for damage to their units and the cost incurred for additional living expenses while they remain displaced."

Strosberg said "the class members are innocent people who are suffering as a result of the acts or omissions of someone else," and that the insurers for the defenders should pay for residents to have temporary living accommodations so they don't have to depend on homeless shelters.

The lawyers handling the lawsuit have a website - [www.kingstonroadclassaction.com](http://www.kingstonroadclassaction.com) - that class members can consult for further information.

Following the evacuation of residents, City of Toronto spokesperson Patricia Trott told *ctvtoronto.ca* that the building is home to some 500 adults and 150 children.