

**From the Tampa Bay Business Journal:**

**<http://www.bizjournals.com/tampabay/news/2012/02/21/liberty-group-acquires-two-bay-area.html>**

# **Liberty Group acquires two Bay area hotels**

**Tampa Bay Business Journal**

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012, 2:15pm EST

## **Related:**

[Banking & Financial Services](#), [Commercial Real Estate](#), [Mergers and Acquisitions](#), [Hospitality](#)

**Liberty Group of Companies**, based in Clearwater, has acquired assets of a Comfort Suites hotel in Clearwater and Comfort Inn hotel in Plant City.

The acquisitions were part of a strategy to “invest in opportunistic real estate properties that are undervalued and present attractive investment returns,” [Liberty said in a written statement](#).

Liberty acquired the nonperforming senior mortgage secured by the Comfort Suites, a waterfront hotel in Clearwater, from C-III Asset Management LLC as a special servicer for Morgan Stanley Mortgage Capital. Liberty entered into a stipulated foreclosure agreement with the borrower, the statement said.

The hotel last sold for \$4.5 million in 2005.

In addition, Liberty acquired the fee-simple interest to the Plant City Comfort Inn property from CWCapital Asset Management LLC as special servicer to **U.S. Bank**.

The hotel last sold for \$5.6 million in 2006.

Liberty Hospitality Management, an affiliated hotel management company, will manage the properties.

Liberty has acquired 16 hotels throughout the U.S. since 2010.