



For Immediate Release

Contact: Melissa Merz

312-814-3118

877-844-5461 (TTY)

mmerz@atg.state.il.us

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MADIGAN WARNS OF POSSIBLE TORNADO-RELATED SCAM

Chicago – Attorney General Lisa Madigan today said her office has heard indirect reports of consumers whose homes were damaged in Sunday night's storms who may have been the targets of con artists looking for personal or financial information.

Madigan's office reported that some consumers have called a Springfield radio station to report that they received a telephone call from someone claiming to be associated with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The alleged FEMA representative requested consumers' bank account information. The caller claimed to be able to deposit money into the consumers' bank accounts to assist with repair of the consumers' storm-damaged homes.

"We have no reason to believe this is FEMA calling or that FEMA is processing any claims or emergency aid in this way," Madigan said. "If you receive a phone call like this, do not give out any personal or financial information that could endanger your identity or bank account."

Again, Madigan urged consumers not to give out their personal information, including bank account information, to unsolicited callers or visitors. Bank account information could be used to remove money from consumers' bank accounts.

Any consumer who has received such a telephone call is asked to call Attorney General Madigan's Consumer Fraud Hotline at 1-800-243-0618.

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