



For Immediate Release
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March 31, 2006

MADIGAN ALERTS CONSUMERS TO RECALLS OF ADDITIONAL CHILDREN'S JEWELRY PRODUCTS; HIGH LEVELS OF LEAD POSE DANGERS TO HEALTH

Chicago –Attorney General Lisa Madigan today joined the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) in alerting consumers to additional recalls of children's costume jewelry products that were found to contain high levels of lead.

In the past week, three separate recalls have been issued for more than one million units of popular children's costume jewelry products because of the danger of lead contamination.

"If your child has any of the jewelry products recalled in the past week, please take immediate steps to get the products out of your child's hands," Madigan said. "There is no legitimate justification for a children's toy to contain lead. Manufacturers and retailers must take every precaution necessary to ensure that our children are not exposed to products that can cause serious harm."

Madigan today announced that approximately 180,000 pieces of American Girl Children's Jewelry, including bracelets, rings, necklaces and earrings, have been voluntarily recalled. The products were sold only at the American Girl Place stores in Chicago and New York, and the American Girl Outlet in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, from May 1999 to February 2006. The products cost between \$8 and \$12.

Madigan also announced today that approximately 580,000 sets of the Dollar Tree Mood Necklace and Ring, the Glow-in-the-Dark Necklace and Ring, and the UV Necklace and Ring have been voluntarily recalled. These children's products were sold for one dollar at Dollar Tree, Dollar Bill\$, Dollar Express, Greenbacks, Only \$1 and Super Dollar Tree stores nationwide from September 2003 to February 2006.

Madigan's office will send out investigators pursuant to the Illinois Children's Product Safety Act to spot check to see that retailers are no longer stocking these recalled items and to make sure that notice of the recalls are posted in prominent locations in the stores.

Madigan's office and the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) began sending out investigators following last week's announcement that approximately 300,000 Reebok Heart-Shaped Charm Bracelets had been recalled. Reebok provided the silver-colored bracelets as a free gift with the

purchase of various styles of Reebok children's footwear sold at major shoe stores nationwide from May 2004 through March 2006.

Madigan advised consumers to stop using the recalled products immediately and contact the product distributors for a refund. For the American Girl jewelry, consumers should return the items for a full refund to American Girl Jewelry Recall, P.O. Box 620974, Middleton, Wisconsin, 53562-0974. For the Dollar Tree jewelry, consumers should return the recalled products to the store where purchased to receive a refund.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, childhood lead poisoning is considered to be the most preventable environmental disease impacting young children. While children are most commonly exposed to lead from lead-based paint in older homes, tainted toys, food, water or other items also can be significant sources of lead exposure for children ages six and younger.

In 2005, the Illinois General Assembly enacted new amendments to the Children's Product Safety Act to help consumers by requiring manufacturers and retail merchants to post recall notices both in their stores and on their Web sites. The recall notification process is further strengthened by requiring manufacturers and retail merchants to alert, by e-mail or mail, Illinois consumers who purchased recalled children's products online. Illinois is the first state to enact such comprehensive child safety notification measures.

The Illinois Department of Public Health's Web site also provides a direct link to www.recalls.gov, where citizens can find up-to-date recall information about past and current recalls.

The following are photographs of the recalled American Girl products:



The following are photographs of the recalled Dollar Tree products:



The following are photographs of the recalled Reebok product:



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