



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **MADIGAN SETTLEMENT WITH APPLEBEE'S TO BRING INCREASED ACCESSIBILITY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

Chicago - Attorney General Lisa Madigan recently reached a settlement agreement with the owner and operator of the Applebee's Restaurant in Peru, Illinois, ensuring that the restaurant will become accessible for people with disabilities. The agreement resolves the Attorney General's investigation of a complaint alleging that this restaurant was not designed and constructed in compliance with laws protecting people with disabilities. The settlement mandates that the restaurant, which currently fails to meet state and federal accessibility requirements, must become fully accessible.

"Buildings that are not constructed in compliance with access laws illegally exclude individuals with disabilities from participating in all aspects of society," said Madigan. "My office vigorously enforces the laws that ensure equal access for individuals with disabilities. This agreement should serve as a reminder to all businesses that they must comply with state and federal accessibility laws."

Under the terms of the agreement, AppleILLINOIS, L.L.C., the owner and operator of the Applebee's in Peru, must modify the restaurant to bring it into compliance with state and federal law, changing several elements of the facility, including the entrances, bathrooms and parking lot so that they become fully accessible to individuals with disabilities. The restaurant must make the required modifications within six months. Along with covering the cost of the required modifications, AppleILLINOIS also must pay \$5,000 in fines and penalties.

Attorney General Madigan's office enforces state and federal laws protecting the rights of people with disabilities to equal access by investigating complaints, working to resolve violations and, when necessary, taking legal action against violators. In addition to enforcing the law, the office provides technical assistance to individuals with disabilities and to public and private entities seeking to comply with disability rights laws. Last year, the office responded to more than 1,500 requests for information related to disability rights issues.

Assistant Attorney General Erin Ipjian handled this case for the Attorney General's Office.

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