



**For Immediate Release
December 3, 2007**

Contact: Robyn Ziegler
312-814-3118
rziegler@atg.state.il.us

*******CONSUMER ALERT*****CONSUMER ALERT*******

ATTORNEY GENERAL WARNS CONSUMERS OF POTENTIAL LEAD POISONING HAZARD IN FISHER PRICE TOY KITS

Chicago – Attorney General Lisa Madigan today warned consumers that Fisher-Price toy medical kits – specifically the red, blood pressure cuffs within the kits – contain high levels of lead. The toy kits are sold at retail stores nationwide.

Madigan urged parents to take away the red, blood pressure cuff toys from their children immediately. At the request of Madigan's office, Fisher-Price has agreed to remove the toy medical kits from store shelves and offer a replacement part for families who already possess the toy. Consumers who wish to obtain a replacement blood pressure cuff can do so by contacting Fisher-Price at 800-298-0638. Only the red, blood pressure cuffs are affected by this alert.

“Parents and other consumers should act quickly to ensure that children do not continue to have contact with this product,” Madigan said. “I am pleased that Fisher-Price is acting quickly to remove the affected blood pressure cuffs from store shelves and offer replacements to consumers. I urge manufacturers and retailers to review and tighten up their quality control procedures so consumers can be confident that the items on store shelves are safe for their children.”

Based on a December 2007 *Consumer Reports* article indicating high levels of lead in the red, blood pressure cuff of the medical kit, the Attorney General's office obtained two of the toy medical kits and sent the blood pressure cuffs to a certified testing facility. The tests of the red, blood pressure cuffs revealed lead levels of 5,900 parts per million and 4,500 parts per million, more than seven to nine times higher than the limit of 600 parts per million allowed by Illinois state law.

Madigan's office enforces the Illinois Lead Poisoning Prevention Act, which prohibits the sale of toys, clothing, jewelry or any other product intended for use by children that contains lead in excess of 600 parts per million. The Act is among the strongest lead laws in the country.

Attorney General Madigan stressed that there are millions of individual items already in children's homes and places they visit such as grandparents' homes and daycare centers that may pose a threat to children's safety. As part of her efforts to protect consumers from unsafe products, Madigan initiated a recall hotline at 1-888-414-7678 to help callers identify recalled products in their

homes and explain how to contact companies to repair or return affected products. The hotline has received more than 500 calls in its first two months of operation and has been successful in providing information to consumers, especially those without access to the Internet. Consumers are also encouraged to sign up for e-mail alerts about the latest government recalls at www.recalls.gov.

Last week the Attorney General introduced a new tool to help parents protect children from unsafe products. The Safe Shopping Guide, a 91-page color directory of hundreds of recalled children's products is available free of charge. Hard copies are available at the Attorney General's main and regional offices and via mail by calling the hotline at 1-888-414-7678. Consumers may also download from the Attorney General's Web site at www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov.

(TTY)

Springfield - 877-844-5461

Chicago - 800-964-3013

Carbondale - 877-675-9339

-30-

[Return to December 2007 Press Releases](#)