



For Immediate Release
February 13, 2008

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

MADIGAN FILES LAWSUIT AGAINST DUPAGE COUNTY WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHER

Chicago - Attorney General Lisa Madigan filed a lawsuit today against a DuPage County wedding photographer for allegedly failing to fulfill to his contracts. The suit, filed in Cook County Chancery Court, names Orlando Copeland, who operates a wedding photography and videography business out of his home in Darien, Ill.

Consumers in Cook, DuPage and Lake Counties, as well as in Indiana, filed 10 complaints against Copeland Photography, Inc., with the Attorney General's Consumer Fraud Bureau and 15 with the Better Business Bureau. The complaints allege that while Copeland showed up and took pictures at the consumers' weddings, he failed to deliver pictures, albums and DVDs following the events. Consumers also complain that Copeland does not respond to attempts to contact him and has refused to refund the payments made by those that cancelled their contracts with him.

"These consumers put their trust in Mr. Copeland to capture their weddings on film and despite their written contracts he failed to fulfill his promises," Madigan said. "There is no justification for accepting their payments and then breaching the contracts. My office is fully committed to enforcing Illinois' laws to protect these consumers from this type of unscrupulous conduct."

Madigan's lawsuit alleges that Copeland violated the Illinois Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act and asks the court to prohibit Copeland from engaging in the business of photography services in Illinois and from further violating Illinois' consumer protection laws. In addition, the suit seeks restitution for consumers as well as a \$50,000 civil penalty for each violation of the Consumer Fraud Act committed with the intent to defraud. The suit also asks the court to order Copeland to pay the costs of the investigative and court fees and to rescind the consumers' contracts.

Assistant Attorney General Katrina Wanzer Derhake is handling the case for Madigan's Consumer Fraud Bureau.

Consumers who believe that they may be victims of consumer fraud can download a consumer complaint form at www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/consumers or call the Attorney General's Consumer Fraud Hotline at one of the following numbers:

Chicago: 1-800-386-5438
Springfield: 1-800-243-0618

Carbondale: 1-800-243-0607

Spanish-language Hotline: 1-866-310-8398

-30-

[Return to February 2008 Press Releases](#)