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

MADIGAN ISSUES “MOST WANTED” GUIDE

Attorney General Continues Efforts to Protect Children from Dangerous Products

Chicago – Attorney General Lisa Madigan today launched the latest weapon in her fight to protect Illinois children from recalled products by introducing a “Most Wanted Guide” of dangerous children’s products. The guide lists products that have been recalled from store shelves but may still be in homes and in day care centers, posing an ongoing risk to children across Illinois.

The resource contains 170 children’s products recalled since January, totaling nearly 10 million units recalled. The guide is split into five sections: toys, jewelry, clothing, bicycles, and cribs/furniture/baby gear.

“As parents, we are all trying to protect our children from dangerous products, but because of their sheer numbers, it’s difficult to keep current on product recalls,” Attorney General Madigan said. “This guide is an additional resource to help Illinois families stay informed about unsafe children’s products.”

The free guide is available through the Attorney General’s Web site at www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov or by calling her office’s recall hotline at (1-888-414-7678). In addition, the Attorney General’s staff will distribute the guide at several country fairs beginning with the Heart of Illinois Fair in Peoria on July 11. The guide will also be available at the Illinois State Fair from Aug. 8-17 and the DuQuoin State Fair from Aug. 23-Sept. 1.

Last year, Attorney General Madigan established the recall hotline to help consumers stay up to date on the latest consumer product recalls. The recall hotline helps callers identify recalled products in their homes and explains how to contact companies to repair or return affected products. Information about recalls of dangerous children’s products can also be found on the Attorney General’s Web site at <http://www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/consumers/recall.html>.

Attorney General Madigan also issued the Safe Shopping Guide last year to help parents steer clear of recalled children’s products as they shopped for holiday gifts. It was the first comprehensive guide to help Illinois consumers in making purchases and in identifying and removing recalled products that may already be in their homes.

To increase consumer awareness of recalls, the Attorney General's office regularly conducts compliance checks and works with retailers and the Illinois Retail Merchants Association to ensure recall information is available to consumers. Also in this effort, 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. This law is among the strongest lead laws in the country.

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