



**For Immediate Release
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MADIGAN SUES CHICAGO ELECTRONICS RETAILER

Chicago - Attorney General Lisa Madigan filed a lawsuit today in Cook County Circuit Court against a now defunct Chicago electronics retailer that sold and repaired electronic equipment including computers, televisions and iPods. Madigan alleges that the company failed to deliver merchandise and failed to refund to customers down payments on store items.

According to the complaint, Renault J. Ellis was president of Ellis Computer Consulting, Inc. and claimed to purchase merchandise at "wholesale prices." Upon receiving partial payments from consumers, Ellis allegedly failed to deliver the products promised to consumers and refused to provide consumer refunds, all violations of the Illinois Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act.

"My office is committed to enforcing Illinois' laws to protect consumers from fraud or deceptive conduct," Attorney General Madigan said. "We will work to hold Mr. Ellis accountable for defrauding his customers and helping them get their money back."

Attorney General Madigan's Consumer Fraud Bureau received five consumer complaints against Ellis Computer Consulting, and the Better Business Bureau also received five consumer complaints indicating the defendant failed to send consumers the products purchased and failed to issue refunds. Victims in Cook County have lost more than \$10,000 as a result of the defendant's deceptive business practices.

Attorney General Madigan's lawsuit asks the court to prohibit the defendant from engaging in the business of selling electronic equipment and from further violating Illinois' consumer protection laws. The lawsuit seeks restitution to consumers as well as investigative and court costs. In addition, Attorney General Madigan's suit seeks a civil penalty of \$50,000 and additional penalties of \$50,000 for each violation found to have been committed by the defendant with the intent to defraud.

Consumers who believe that they may be the victim 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

Assistant Attorney General Janice Parker is handling the case for Madigan's Consumer Fraud Bureau.

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