



November 17, 2008

MADIGAN FILES SUIT AGAINST ONLINE AUTO WHOLESALER

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today filed a lawsuit in Cook County Circuit Court against an Elk Grove, Ill.-based online auto wholesale company for allegedly failing to deliver the vehicles that consumers purchased through its Web site.

"This company accepted money and then breached contracts by failing to deliver the promised cars to consumers," Madigan said. "I am committed to taking legal action to protect consumers from this type of deceptive conduct."

According to the complaint, Wholesale Buying Group and its president, Christopher Sweis, advertise on a Web site (www.wholesalebuyinggroup.net) that if consumers select a vehicle and make an upfront payment, the company will then purchase the car at an auction and add a \$700 fee to the wholesale purchase price to cover expenses. However, according to Madigan's complaint, the company fails to fulfill this promise and never turns over the vehicles to consumers.

Attorney General Madigan's lawsuit asks the court to enter a permanent injunction prohibiting the company and Sweis from offering, brokering or selling automobiles. The complaint also asks the court to order the defendant to pay restitution to consumers, a \$50,000 civil penalty, an additional \$50,000 penalty for each violation of the Consumer Fraud Act and all fees associated with the investigation and prosecution of the case.

Consumers who believe they have been the victim of consumer fraud can download a 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 Greg Grzeskiewicz is handling the case for Madigan's Consumer Fraud Bureau.

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