



March 30, 2011

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**O'FALLON HOTEL POOL CLOSED AS MADIGAN ACTS ON CONCERNS RAISED BY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS**

***Management Defied Earlier Orders to Keep Pool Closed***

Chicago — The swimming pool at a Metro-East hotel will remain closed pending a hearing next month on alleged public health and sanitation violations contained in a complaint filed this week by Attorney General Lisa Madigan.

Yesterday in St. Clair County Circuit Court, Attorney General Madigan obtained a temporary restraining order against ABVI Management, Inc., which owns America's Best Value Inn, 140 Venita Dr., in O'Fallon. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) referred the matter to Madigan's office following IDPH inspections, as well as those conducted by city of O'Fallon and St. Clair County public health officials revealed numerous, ongoing violations of state law that protects public health and safety and attempts to prevent the spread of infection.

"If you travel with children as I do, where's the first place they beg to go after check-in - the pool, of course. Travelers and parents shouldn't have to worry about hotel management not doing its job to keep pools safe, clean and free of hazards," said Madigan.

According to Madigan's complaint, one of the more glaring violations alleges an inspector with the St. Clair County Health Department observed on Feb. 11 that hotel management had reopened the swimming pool and had removed the IDPH closure order notice after the agency inspected the pool and shut it down Jan. 19 for failing to address violations found in earlier inspections.

A hearing on Attorney General Madigan's motion for a preliminary injunction will be held April 6. Assistant Attorney General Kelly Phelps is handling the case for Madigan's Environmental Bureau.

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