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*****CONSUMER ALERT*****CONSUMER ALERT*****

MADIGAN ALERTS CONSUMERS TO RECALLED POOL DRAIN COVERS, CITING DANGERS***Attorney General Urges Families to Call Local Pools About Recall and Safety Standards***

Chicago — With summer approaching, Attorney General Lisa Madigan today alerted Illinois consumers to a widespread recall of dangerous pool drain covers that could potentially entrap swimmers.

The Attorney General is contacting manufacturers of the recalled drains to determine which pools in Illinois installed them and asking the manufacturers to detail how they plan to install safe replacement drains.

Madigan also encouraged families to determine if their local pool is equipped with a recalled drain cover and whether it complies with federal safety laws before going swimming. She urged consumers to report unsafe pools to federal regulators.

“At the start of swimming season this holiday weekend, Illinois families need to know if their local pools are safe,” Attorney General Madigan said. “I strongly encourage parents to call their local pool operators to ask two very important questions—if the pool contains one of these dangerous drains and whether the facility complies with safety standards.”

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) this week announced a recall of 1 million pool and spa drain covers and advised pools with recalled covers to remain closed until replacing the equipment. In issuing the recall, the CPSC cited risks that swimmers may become entrapped and drown while in a pool with the recalled equipment. Many of the recalled drains were initially installed in order to comply with the federal Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Act, which requires certain safety measures for pool and spa drains.

Attorney General Madigan urged Illinoisans to ask pool operators before swimming if they’ve verified whether the pool is equipped with a recalled drain cover and if it complies with the requirements of the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Act. Madigan said if the answer is no to either question, consumers should contact the CPSC at to report the pool as unsafe by calling 1-800-638-2772 or emailing poolsafely@cpsc.gov.

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