



January 31, 2014

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

MADIGAN ALERTS FAMILIES TO DANGERS OF TV TIP-OVER ACCIDENTS

In Recognition of National TV Safety Day, Madigan Issues Guidelines for Securing TVs at Home

Chicago — In recognition of National TV Safety Day on Saturday, Attorney General Lisa Madigan is alerting Illinois parents and caregivers about the serious risk for injury and death due to television tip-over accidents.

Madigan issued the alert in light of an increasing number of television tip-over accidents recently reported, including the tragic death of a 4-year-old Aurora girl this week. Studies show that every 45 minutes a child visits an emergency room because of a tip-over accident, and every three weeks, a child dies from a television tipping over. A majority of these children are five years old or younger.

Madigan urged families to follow guidelines provided by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to secure televisions in their homes:

- Anchor televisions and furniture to the wall or floor;
- Place televisions on sturdy, low-base stands or furniture, or anchor the furniture and the television on its base, and push the television as far back to the wall as possible;
- Keep remote controls, toys and other items of interest to children off of television stands or furniture;
- Keep television and cable cords out of reach; and
- Ensure that freestanding kitchen ranges and stoves are installed with anti-tip brackets.

“It’s important for parents to learn about these hidden hazards in our homes,” Madigan said. “I encourage anyone living with small children to take time this weekend to safeguard their homes from these potential dangers.”

As more families purchase flat-screen televisions, their older, heavier television models are moved to bedrooms or basements where children may play unsupervised. The increase in injuries prompted Madigan and other safety advocates in Illinois to launch an awareness campaign to alert families to the risks of tip-over accidents. To view or download a copy of the Illinois Safe Home Coalition’s Furniture Tip-Over Awareness poster, visit Madigan’s [website](#).

In observance of National TV Safety Day on Saturday, Safe Kids Worldwide is teaming up with Consumer Electronics Association to make homes safer by encouraging families to recycle older cathode ray tube televisions, which can be a hazard if not placed on a low, stable piece of furniture. For information regarding recycling televisions, visit the Safe Kids [website](#).

Consumers seeking more information on the risk of furniture tip-over or copies of the poster should contact Madigan’s Product Recall Hotline at (888) 414-7678, TTY (800) 964-3012 and (866) 310-8398 for Spanish speakers.

-30-

[Return to January 2014 Press Releases](#)

