



February 11, 2016

ATTORNEY GENERAL SUES LAKE COUNTY GAS STATION OWNER OVER LEAK***Court Grants Madigan's Request for Preliminary Injunction***

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today announced she filed a lawsuit against the owner of a Lake County gas station over a gasoline leak that caused soil and groundwater contamination and vapors to enter nearby residents' homes.

Madigan's complaint was filed in Lake County Circuit Court against Shri Balaji Inc., the owner and operator of a Mobil station located at 504 E. Main St. in Barrington. The complaint alleges that an underground storage tank at the station had been leaking unknown quantities of gasoline since at least Jan. 25. The leak was discovered after residents complained of gasoline odors in their homes. The complaint alleges leaking gasoline flowed into the soil and groundwater and entered the adjacent sanitary sewer system.

In filing the complaint, the court also granted Madigan's request for a preliminary injunction that will address environmental concerns while the litigation continues. The court's order requires the defendant to determine the cause of the leak and to evaluate the extent of the contamination in the soil and groundwater. The defendant is required to conduct regular sampling and monitoring, and to report results to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Office of the State Fire Marshal that describes the investigation and clean-up actions.

"This action will ensure that the gasoline contamination is investigated and remediated because our first concern is the health and well-being of the community," said Madigan.

The Illinois EPA referred the case to Madigan's office after an inspector responding to complaints of a gasoline-like odor found evidence of a gasoline leak.

Assistant Attorneys General Stephen Sylvester and Samuel David are handling the case for Madigan's Environmental Bureau.

-30-

[Return to February 2016 Press Releases](#)