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July 14, 2011

**AG MADIGAN'S OFFICE, REP. KEITH FARNHAM JOIN TO
EDUCATE ELGIN CONSUMERS**

Elgin — Officials from Attorney General Lisa Madigan's office and state Rep. Keith Farnham will visit Elgin on Saturday to help consumers work to avoid foreclosure, learn how to identify consumer scams and practice Internet safety while surfing online.

The offices will visit the Blue Kangaroo Laundromat, 464 Summit St., this weekend as part of their "mobile office hours" events that travel the state to raise consumer awareness among local residents.

"Just in the past year, 170,000 people contacted my office for help, with more than 27,000 of them lodging formal complaints against businesses," Attorney General Madigan said. "We continue to try to reach consumers directly with events like this one in Elgin in hopes of preventing others from being scammed."

At Saturday's event, the Attorney General's office will help consumers learn the most common scams to avoid, how to protect themselves from identity theft and how to avoid cyberbullying on the Internet. Madigan's office will educate homeowners on foreclosure prevention and the help her office can provide directly for homeowners by contacting her Homeowner's Helpline, (866) 544-7151.

"Providing valuable services and resources to the constituents in this district is one of my top priorities," Rep. Farnham said. "I find it important to partner with other governmental agencies to educate residents about protecting themselves and loved ones from consumer scams."

For more information or to schedule a visit in your community, contact Eric Salcedo, with the Attorney General's Office, at (312) 814-1116.

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