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September 18, 2018

ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN SUES SOUTH SUBURBAN EVENT PROMOTER FOR DEFRAUDING CONSUMERS

Madigan Alleges Defendant Demanded Upfront Payments to Promote Events that Never Occurred

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan filed a lawsuit against Lee R. Martin, a Richton Park, Ill. businessman who demanded thousands of dollars in down payments from consumers for planning, promotion and production of events that never happened.

In her lawsuit filed in Cook County Circuit Court, Madigan alleges that Martin promised people he would produce concerts, parties and other events in exchange for large upfront payments. He also requested upfront payments for investment and sponsorship opportunities for fake events he claimed he was producing. Madigan alleges Martin defrauded at least 12 consumers out of nearly \$40,000.

“Mr. Martin stole money from people from around the country by falsely promising to produce significant events like birthday parties, a book event or a fashion show,” Madigan said. “This defendant must be held accountable for his scam.”

In addition to requesting down payments, Madigan alleges Martin lied about his qualifications. When the date of a supposed event neared, Madigan alleges Martin would become unresponsive to the point at which the event would be canceled. Consumers would then seek refunds that Madigan alleges Martin never provided.

Assistant Attorneys General Andrea Law and Tracy Walsh are handling the case for Madigan’s Consumer Fraud Bureau.

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