August 11, 2022

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAOUL'S STATE FAIR TENT HIGHLIGHTS EFFORTS TO ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY

Springfield — Attorney General Kwame Raoul today encouraged Illinois families to visit his tent at the 2022 Illinois State Fair.

Raoul's tent offers many free resources focused on enhancing public safety, including a display on safe online gaming for teens, a photo station with an interactive quiz on internet safety concepts and information on protecting children from online predators. Raoul's tent will also allow fairgoers to learn more about the office's ongoing work to enhance public safety throughout Illinois.

"As families enjoy the Illinois State Fair, I encourage them to visit the Attorney General's tent to learn about the important services my office provides and how we work to protect residents throughout the year," Raoul said. "My staff will be available to provide information about keeping kids safe online, as well as tips to avoid consumer fraud. Visitors to the tent can also learn more about the ways my office is working to address the impacts of violence and to defend the rights of individuals in Illinois."

Visitors to the Attorney General's tent will be introduced to Browser and Buddy, the newest members of the Attorney General's Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force. These cartoon dog mascots will help children learn about staying safe online. Families that visit the Attorney General's tent will receive Buddy and Browser's new coloring book, which is an interactive tool to help children develop healthy online habits as they work their way through the book of tips. Additional resources for families and educators are available on the Attorney General's OnlineSafeOnlineSmart website.

Illinois' ICAC Task Force is one of 61 ICAC Task Forces throughout the country and is comprised of a network of more than 285 local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies, and the task force covers 101 of Illinois' 102 counties.

The tent will also highlight the office's commitment to addressing and preventing violence around Illinois. Visitors can learn about the office's ongoing partnership with the U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC) to provide a series of trainings on behavioral threat assessment, an approach designed to help prevent mass casualty attacks. These trainings are offered to clergy and worship staff, educators and school administrators, hospital staff and administrators, mental health professionals, law enforcement, experts in risk detection and management, and others. The sessions include presentations of research on mass attacks in public places, including key findings and commonalities in an attempt to help people identify warning signs that could prevent future attacks.

Attorney General Raoul's tent also offers information about other programs and services the office provides, such as assisting victims of fraud and deception, and those supporting victims of violent crime. Raoul's tent is located on Grandstand Avenue, and the office will also have an exhibit in the Illinois Building to provide information designed to help seniors recognize and avoid scams.

For more information about the Attorney General's office, resources from the ICAC, information about consumer fraud, victims' services, or Behavioral Threat Assessment trainings, please visit the Attorney General's website.