



## **Consumer Counsel Elin Swanson Katz Panelist at Energize CT Forum**

On March 6, 2014, Consumer Counsel Elin Swanson Katz was a panelist at the “Energize CT Energy Forum: What You Can Do To Save on Energy Costs” in East Hartford, Connecticut. The forum was presented by State Representative Henry Genga of the 10<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, East Hartford. Other panelists included Peggy Diaz of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), Madeline Priest of the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority (CEFIA), and representatives from The Connecticut Light & Power Company (CL&P), Connecticut Natural Gas (CNG), and Southern Connecticut Gas (SCG).

Consumer Counsel Katz discussed that while electric suppliers may offer initially lower electricity rates compared to CL&P and United Illuminating’s (UI) Standard Offer, consumers should be aware that these introductory lower rates could turn into strikingly higher variable rates. In addition, Consumer Counsel Katz urged consumers to use caution when they receive a sales call from an electric supplier asking for account data over the phone. Specifically, Consumer Counsel Katz warned consumers not to give their CL&P or UI account numbers, or any other confidential information, to electric suppliers over the telephone or to a door-to-door salesperson, unless they have made the decision to switch suppliers.