STATE OF CONNECTICUT ~ OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



## ATTORNEY GENERAL GEORGE JEPSEN

## ATTORNEY GENERAL SPONSORS CONSUMER EXPO TO MARK 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK

For Immediate Release

MONDAY MARCH 7, 2011

HARTFORD – Attorney General George Jepsen is sponsoring a consumer education expo Friday to mark National Consumer Protection Week, which runs through March 12.

Consumer advocacy groups nationwide are sharing tips and information to help consumers protect their privacy, manage money and debt, avoid identity theft and avoid frauds and scams.

This year the Attorney General has issued consumer alerts about the dangers of wiring money, or providing private information, such as Social Security numbers, to third parties without being absolutely certain any transaction is legitimate.

"The message to consumers is take the time to make sure the transaction is real before you cash a check from someone you don't know, wire money or give out your private information," Jepsen said. "It is easier to avoid a scam than to recover money lost to one."

The alerts can be viewed online at <u>www.ct.gov/ag</u>. Copies also will be available to the public Friday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the consumer education expo being held in the concourse of the Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford.

Also participating in the expo are the state departments of Consumer Protection, Banking, Insurance and Public Utility Control and the organizations RSVP; the Better Business Bureau; and the Consumer Law Project, among others.

Other consumer resources are available at <u>www.ncpw.gov</u>, including blog posts from consumer experts nationwide, whom consumers may contact directly about a variety of consumer protection resources.

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