

# NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston, Administrator

July 16, 2008

Release #07-058

SCDCA Media Contact: Maria Audas, 803.734.4296

1.800.922.1594 (toll free in SC)

Email: [scdca@dca.state.sc.us](mailto:scdca@dca.state.sc.us)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

**Columbia, SC.....**The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) was recently awarded the ACE Award at the annual National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators (NACAA) conference held in Dallas, Texas last month. The NACAA *Achievement in Consumer Education* (ACE) Award recognizes the accomplishments of consumer protection and advocacy initiatives across the country. SCDCA's ACE Award is for **“An Outstanding Comprehensive Program of Consumer Education, Legislation, and Enforcement.”**

The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs was recognized for its efforts in presenting such programs as “Scam Jam: A Forum for Senior,” Quarterly Shred Day free consumer events, the Consumer and Fraud Alert publications, Speaker's Bureau, and the innovative Homebuying 101 Workshop. The Department's public information efforts were aggressive, resulting in many media opportunities statewide as well including partnerships with several local network affiliates for consumer series during “sweepstakes” months when local news programming is promoted heavily. SCDCA staff regularly travel to these stations and staff phone banks during the evening news block for viewer call-ins.

---

#### About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers.

Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education.

For more information, visit [www.sccoconsumer.gov](http://www.sccoconsumer.gov).

---

“It’s a great honor to have a staff of talented individuals produce such quality consumer-oriented programs that are so well-received,” said Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston, SCDCA Administrator. “All of these initiatives provided critical and relevant information to assist consumers in making good decisions in the marketplace and in their personal lives.” Pinkston also said that this award marks the fifth time the Department has been honored by NACAA, including its highest tribute, the “National Consumer Agency of the Year” award in 2005.

If you would like further information on SCDCA programs or would like to sign up to receive its publications, contact the Public Information Division at 803.734.4296, toll free in South Carolina at 1.800.922.1594, or online at [www.sconsumer.gov](http://www.sconsumer.gov).

-30-

7-16-08/ajb

---

**About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:**

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers.

Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education.

For more information, visit [www.sconsumer.gov](http://www.sconsumer.gov).

---