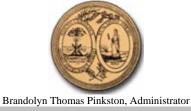


South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



September 17, 2008 Release #08-082 SCDCA Media Contact: Hugh Crofoot , 803.543.8044 1.800.922.1594 (toll free in SC) Email: <u>scdca@dca.state.sc.us</u>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCDCA RETURNS TO GREENWOOD ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2008

Columbia, SC... ... The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) will visit the Greenwood community on Thursday, September 25, 2008, to handle consumer complaints and questions. Regional SCDCA outreach coordinator Hugh Crofoot will pay a visit to the Greenwood Park Plaza, Room 104 in Greenwood, SC 29646. Consumers may come with questions or complaints regarding a business between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Individuals are encouraged to bring documentation with them.

Mr. Crofoot will have additional materials available on mortgages and mortgage fraud. "We all pay when mortgage fraud occurs. Directly or indirectly, it costs us. Consumers can, however, help put an end to mortgage fraud by taking a proactive approach and making good personal decisions when they buy a home. We can help in this effort by informing them of the dangers and red flags," said Crofoot. Information will be available on what to look for in a mortgage, payment options to consider, fraudulent practices that could deceive you, and how to avoid becoming a victim.

The Department will continue to visit the Greenwood community on a regular basis. Locations will be announced monthly. The Department services the entire state via telephone and online help. Specific questions and concerns from the Greenwood community may be addressed to

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 <u>www.scconsumer.qov</u>. Hugh Crofoot. Appointments are available upon request. Mr. Crofoot may be reached at 803.543.8044

This month's visit has been made possible through a collaborative effort with Greenwood Operation Manager Victor Carpenter and the Greenwood County Council.

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