

# NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston, Administrator

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### SCDCA RETURNS TO LAURENS ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

**Columbia, SC...** ...The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) will visit the Laurens community on Thursday, September 18, 2008, to handle consumer complaints and questions. Regional SCDCA outreach coordinator Patty Guthrie will pay a visit to the general conference room at the Laurens County Public Library located at 1017 West Main Street, Laurens, SC 29360. 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.

Ms. Guthrie 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 Guthrie. 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 Laurens 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 Laurens community may be addressed to Patty Guthrie. Appointments are available upon request. Ms. Guthrie may be reached at 864.490.3267.

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#### 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).

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This month's visit has been made possible through a collaborative effort with the Laurens County Public Library and Laurens County Administrator Ernest Segars.

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