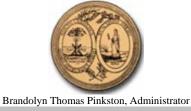


South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



June 5, 2008 Release #08-045 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 SUMMERVILLE ON JUNE 12, 2008

Columbia, SC... ... The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) will visit the Summerville community on Thursday, June 12 2008, to handle consumer complaints and questions. SCDCA staff will pay a visit to Dorchester County Council Chambers located at 500 North Main Street in Summerville, SC 29306. 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 also have additional materials on home buying and mortgages available upon request. "Mortgage rates right now are pretty reasonable, making the American dream more affordable for consumers. However, with all the mortgage fraud and foreclosures, consumers have to be extra careful to look before they leap. A home purchases is a huge financial commitment, and it is important consumers understand all the variables that could affect them down the road," said Hugh Crofoot, SCDCA Outreach Coordinator.

The Department will continue to visit the Summerville 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 Summerville community may be addressed to the Consumer Services Division Monday thru Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. by calling 803.734.4200 or toll-free at 1.800.922.1594.

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>.

This month's visit has been made possible through a collaborative effort with the Dorchester County Council and Colin Martin, County Administrator.

-30-

06-05-08/tm

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.gov</u>.