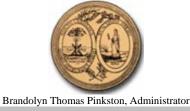


South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



October 31, 2008 Release #08-096 SCDCA Media Contact: Patty Guthrie, 864.490.3267 1.800.922.1594 (toll free in SC) Email: <u>scdca@dca.state.sc.us</u>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCDCA RETURNS TO PACOLET ON NOVEMBER 5, 2008

Columbia, SC... ... The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) will visit the Pacolet community on Wednesday, November 5, 2008, to handle consumer complaints and questions. Regional SCDCA outreach coordinator Patty Guthrie will pay a visit to the Pacolet branch of the Spartanburg County Public Library. Consumers may come with questions or complaints regarding a business between 1:00 pm and 3:00 p.m. Individuals are encouraged to bring documentation with them.

Ms. Guthrie will have additional materials available on car buying, repairs, and repossession. "Year after year, these issues are at the top of our complaint list. We help one consumer only to turn around and see another hooked by deceptive advertising or a loophole. There are so many details involved in car buying and car repair. Our job is to help make consumers aware of the ones that could end up costing them," said Guthrie. Information will be available on what to look for when buying a new or used car, when signing a repair contract, and when dealing with other related issues.

The Department will continue to visit the Pacolet 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 Pacolet community may be addressed to Patty Guthrie. Appointments are available upon request. Ms. Guthrie may be reached at 864.490.3267.

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>. This month's visit has been made possible through a collaborative effort with the Pacolet Library and librarian Chris Rogers.

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