

# NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



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October 19, 2009

Release #09-087

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CONSUMER AFFAIRS SPONSORS ESSAY COMPETITION FOR 5<sup>th</sup> AND 6<sup>th</sup> GRADERS

**Columbia, SC.....**The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) continues its mission of consumer education with a competition designed for some of South Carolina's youngest consumers. The theme of SCDCA's 2009 Essay Competition is *"If I had \$100, I would...."*

The statewide competition for all South Carolina 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students allows them to put into words what they would do with \$100. Students participating in the 2009 Essay Competition will develop a better understanding of financial literacy and consumer education while improving their writing skills.

**The top five (5) winners will receive \$100 United States Savings Bond and will be recognized along with their parents/guardian and a teacher in a public ceremony. Funding is made possible through the South Carolina Bankers Association.**

The competition will encourage tomorrow's generation of financial customers on the importance of saving and investing and wise spending during an economy where every dollar is valued. Students today are growing up with words and phrases like "recession," "economic downturn," and "from wall street to main street." Consequently, the Department encourages schools, community organizations, businesses, the media and consumers to focus public awareness on financial literacy, especially among young consumers.

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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.scconsumer.gov](http://www.scconsumer.gov).

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**Important Registration Information:**

For essay competition guidelines and entry forms, visit [www.sccoconsumer.gov](http://www.sccoconsumer.gov). If you need further information, please call Maria Audas (803) 734-4296 or toll-free at (800) 922-1594. Deadline for entry is Friday, December 4, 2009, at 5 p.m.

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