

**NEWS FROM SCDCA** 

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS Carri Grube Lybarker, Administrator



June 25, 2013 SCDCA Media Contact: Juliana Harris, 803.734.4296 Email: <u>JHarris@scconsumer.gov</u> Release #13-022 1.800.922.1594 (toll free in SC)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Homeownership Month: Guide Aims to Address SC Foreclosure Woes

**Columbia, SC...** The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) is focusing its National Homeownership Month efforts on empowering consumers with the knowledge necessary to keep their homes. As South Carolina ranks number **five** in national foreclosure rates, with 1 in every 600 homes in foreclosure, SCDCA is releasing a new guide entitled <u>Having Trouble Paying Your Mortgage?</u> This publication offers information on preforeclosure options, what to expect during foreclosure, and warns of common foreclosure scams.

SCDCA is also partnering with the US Department of the Treasury in promotion of their *Help for Homeowners Foreclosure Prevention Event*. The event will be held at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center on **June 28**<sup>th</sup> **from 1:00pm-8:00pm**. *Distressed borrowers will be able to discuss foreclosure prevention options one-on-one with banks, credit unions and servicers on-site or with housing counselors*. Consumers can call 1-888-995-HOPE (4673) with event questions or for assistance in preparing the above documents.

For more information on homeownership, visit <u>www.consumer.sc.gov</u> and click **Consumer Information** then click **Help for Homeowners**.

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SCDCA aims to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, complaint mediation, enforcement and education. To file a complaint or get information on consumer issues, visit *www.consumer.sc.gov* or call toll-free, 1.800.922.1594.

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