

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 JULY 17, 2008

Columbia, SC... ...The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) will visit the Laurens community on Thursday, July 17, 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 12:00 p.m. Individuals are encouraged to bring documentation with them.

Ms. Guthrie will also have additional materials available explaining the limitations of debt collectors and how to avoid deceptive practices. With consumer debt being at an all time high, debt collectors are targeting more and more consumers across the country. South Carolina is no exception. "Month after month, year after year, debt collection ranks in the top three types of complaints that the Department receives," said Donna DeMichael, SCDCA Director of Consumer Services.

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.

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.sccoconsumer.gov.

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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