



NEWS RELEASE – CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK (March 1-7, 2009)

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**DORA JOINS BROAD COALITION
TO SPONSOR 11th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK (March 1-7,
2009)**

Colorado's Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) has joined a group of federal, state, and local government agencies and national consumer organizations launching the 11th annual National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW), March 1-7. NCPW 2009 – Nuts and Bolts: Tools for Today's Economy – highlights consumer education efforts across the nation. Information can help people get the most for their money, whether they are trying to stretch their paychecks, find a quick fix for a spotty credit history, or tell the difference between a real deal and a potentially fraudulent product or service.

"DORA is proud to be part of this year's National Consumer Protection Week campaign," said Rico Munn, Executive Director of the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA). "In times like these, information is one commodity that retains its value. We invite everyone to visit www.dora.state.co.us and www.consumer.gov/ncpw for the tools they can use to become smart consumers."

According to the Federal Trade Commission, scam artists and fraudsters follow the headlines, and are likely to be using the economic downturn to take advantage of consumers who may be underwater financially. The NCPW website and DORA's website have tools people can use to recognize a rip-off, sniff out a scam, and make smart choices for today's market.

Partner organizations have tips on a wide range of topics, from how to get a free credit report to how to spot a telemarketing scam, from how to deal with debt to how to deter and detect identity theft, from how to avoid home and auto repair scams to how to file a consumer complaint with the appropriate authorities.

National organizers of this year's NCPW include AARP, Call for Action, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Consumer Federation of America, the Council of Better Business Bureaus, the Federal Citizen's Information Center, the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Trade Commission, the National Association of Attorneys General, the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators, the National Consumers League, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and the U.S. Postal Service.

For more information about NCPW, visit www.consumer.gov/ncpw. For more information about Colorado's consumer protection department, visit www.dora.state.co.us.

DORA is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting a fair and competitive business environment. Consumer protection is our mission.