



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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Attorney General Issues Reminder To Businesses of Important Dates for Antitrust Settlement

HONOLULU - Attorney General Earl Anzai reminded Hawaii businesses to be aware of upcoming important dates relating to a settlement of antitrust claims asserted against vitamin manufacturers.

Hawaii businesses that purchased vitamin-enriched products such as breakfast cereals, breads, baby food, margarine, supplements, drinks, cosmetics, animal feeds and pet foods between January 1, 1990 and December 31, 1999 from a seller in a settling state for commercial purposes may be members of the Commercial Settlement Class. "Given the difficult times being faced by businesses in Hawaii as a result of the September 11 tragedy, and the hectic and critical business season, it is easy to forget or overlook this opportunity to participate in this settlement," said Anzai.

Eligible businesses do not need to take any action to remain in the class, but must submit a proof of claim form to the settlement administrator no later than January 7, 2002. A business may opt out of the settlement and pursue claims at its own expense by submitting a Request for Exclusion to the settlement administrator no later than December 7, 2001.

Anzai noted that a substantial amount of information is available on the Internet at <http://vitaminlitigation.com>, and he urged businesses to visit the website or call the toll free number 1-800-424-6662 for information or to write to Indirect Vitamin Products Settlement, Settlement Administrator, P.O. Box 8809, Melville, NY 11747-8809.

The settlement arose out of an antitrust action filed by Hawaii, 20 other states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico against a number of vitamin manufacturers for unlawfully conspiring to fix, raise, maintain, or stabilize the prices of, and allocate volumes, markets, or customers for certain vitamin products.
