



RICHARD CORDRAY
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 29, 2010

By Electronic Submission
Federal Trade Commission
Office of the Secretary
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Room H-135 (Annex W)
Washington, DC 20580

Re: Mortgage Assistance Relief Services – Proposed Rulemaking: Rule No. R911003

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing in response to the Commission's proposed rule regulating mortgage assistance relief services. I strongly support the proposed rule.

My office submitted detailed comments in July to the Commission's request for information on the mortgage rescue industry, and signed on to comments submitted by the National Association of Attorneys General. I am pleased to see our comments incorporated into the proposed rule, and am particularly glad that the proposed rule will allow state attorneys general to enforce the rule and will outlaw upfront fees by the rescue companies. If adopted, the rule will go a long way towards eliminating unscrupulous rescue company practices.

Ohio continues to be hit hard by the foreclosure crisis, with over 89,000 foreclosures filed in 2009. Rescue scams take advantage of the most vulnerable consumers, and all too often only lead the consumer closer to foreclosure. These financial predators prey upon desperate homeowners by making false offers of help that they will never deliver. So far, we have filed nine such lawsuits since I took office. And we will continue to do so when we discover companies who exploit misery in Ohio communities for their own gain. I urge the Commission to adopt the proposed rule, and look forward to working with the Commission to enforce it.

Please feel free to contact me, if I or my office can be of help in any way.

Sincerely,


Richard Cordray
Attorney General of Ohio