

ATTORNEYS GENERAL

**Table 4.22
ATTORNEYS GENERAL: CONSUMER PROTECTION ACTIVITIES,
SUBPOENA POWERS AND ANTITRUST DUTIES**

<i>State or other jurisdiction</i>	<i>May commence civil proceedings</i>	<i>May commence criminal proceedings</i>	<i>Represents the state before regulatory agencies (a)</i>	<i>Administers consumer protection programs</i>	<i>Handles consumer complaints</i>	<i>Subpoena powers (b)</i>	<i>Antitrust duties</i>
Alabama.....	★	★	★	★	★	●	A,B,C
Alaska.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
Arizona.....	★	...	...	★(c)	★	★	A,B,C,D
Arkansas.....	★	...	★	★	★	●	A,B
California.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
Colorado.....	★	★	★	★	★	●	A,C,D
Connecticut.....	★	(d)	★	★	★	●	A,B,D
Delaware.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,D
Florida.....	★	...	...	★	★	★	A,B,D
Georgia.....	★	★	★	...	...	●	...
Hawaii.....	★	★	★	...	★	★	A,B,C,D
Idaho.....	★	...	★	★	★	●	A,B,D
Illinois.....	★	...	★	★	★	●	A,B,C
Indiana.....	★	...	★	★	★	★	A,B
Iowa.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	B,C
Kansas.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	B,C,D
Kentucky.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
Louisiana.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C
Maine.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C
Maryland.....	★	★(e)	...	★	★	★	B,C,D
Massachusetts.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
Michigan.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
Minnesota.....	★	...	★	★	★	●	A,B,C
Mississippi.....	★	★	...	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
Missouri.....	★	★	...	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
Montana.....	★	★	...	★	★	●	A,B
Nebraska.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
Nevada.....	★	★	★	★	★	●	A,B,C,D
New Hampshire.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
New Jersey.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
New Mexico.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C (g)
New York.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
North Carolina.....	★	★(f)	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
North Dakota.....	★	...	★	★	★	★	A,B,D
Ohio.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
Oklahoma.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
Oregon.....	★	★(f)	★	★	★	●	A,B,C,D
Pennsylvania.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B
Rhode Island.....	★	★	...	★	★	★	A,B,C
South Carolina.....	★(a)	★(h)	★	...	(i)	●	A,B,C,D
South Dakota.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C
Tennessee.....	★	(e)(f)	(f)	★	...	★	B,C,D
Texas.....	★	★	★	★	★	●	A,B,C,D
Utah.....	★(j)	★	★(j)	...	★(k)	●	A (l),B,C,D (l)
Vermont.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B,C
Virginia.....	★	(f)	★	★(k)	★(k)	●	A,B,C,D
Washington.....	★	...	★	★	★	★	A,B,D
West Virginia.....	★	...	★	★	★	★	A,B,D
Wisconsin.....	★	★	★	★	★	●	A,B,C (g)
Wyoming.....	★	...	★	★	★	●	A,B
Dist. of Columbia.....	★	★(m)	★	★	★	★	A,B,C,D
American Samoa.....	★	★	★	★	★	...	...
Guam.....	★	★	★	★	★	●	A,B,C,D
No. Mariana Islands.....	★	★	★	★	★	★	A,B
Puerto Rico.....	★	★	...	...	...	★	A,B,C,D
U.S. Virgin Islands.....	★	★	★	★	★	●	A

See footnotes at end of table.

**ATTORNEYS GENERAL: CONSUMER PROTECTION ACTIVITIES,
SUBPOENA POWERS AND ANTITRUST DUTIES—Continued**

Source: The Council of State Governments' survey of attorneys general, January 2010.

Key:

A — Has parens patriae authority to commence suits on behalf of consumers in state antitrust damage actions in state courts.

B — May initiate damage actions on behalf of state in state courts.

C — May commence criminal proceedings.

D — May represent cities, counties and other governmental entities in recovering civil damages under federal or state law.

★ — Has authority in area.

... — Does not have authority in area.

(a) May represent state on behalf of: the "people" of the state; an agency of the state; or the state before a federal regulatory agency.

(b) In this column only: ★ broad powers and ● limited powers.

(c) The 49th Legislature, first regular session, established a statutory scheme that provided for a mortgage recovery fund to pay those harmed

by dishonest loan originators. The attorney general is now authorized to try to recover from the dishonest loan originators the money that the fund paid out (See ARS 6-991.15).

(d) In certain cases only.

(e) May commence criminal proceedings with local district attorney.

(f) To a limited extent.

(g) May represent other governmental entities in recovering civil damages under federal or state law.

(h) When permitted to intervene.

(i) On a limited basis because the state has a separate consumer affairs department.

(j) Attorney general has exclusive authority.

(k) Attorney general handles legal matters only with no administrative handling of complaints.

(l) Opinion only, since there are no controlling precedents.

(m) In antitrust, not criminal proceedings.