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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*** Consumer Advisory ***

Terry Goddard Warns Consumers to Beware of Bogus Property Tax Offer

(Phoenix, Ariz. — August 4, 2009) Attorney General Terry Goddard is warning Arizona homeowners to be wary of official-looking advertisements claiming that a homeowner's property qualifies for a "property tax reduction review." This solicitation appears to be an attempt to scam homeowners who are looking to reduce their property tax bill.

The solicitation, which requests a \$189 processing fee, is not affiliated with any government entity. The document attempts to appear official and contains a "notice number" and deadline for prompt processing.

Assessed valuations for 2009 cannot be changed since the appeals process for 2009 has ended. In addition, there is no fee required to file a property valuation appeal with county treasurers' or assessors' offices in Arizona.

A sample of the solicitation is attached.

If you believe you have been a victim of consumer fraud, please contact the Attorney General's Office in Phoenix at 602.542.5763, in Tucson at 520.628.6504, or outside the Phoenix and Tucson metro areas at 1.800.352.8431. Consumers can also file complaints online by visiting the Attorney General's Web site at www.azag.gov. To file a complaint in person, the Attorney General's Office has satellite offices throughout the state with volunteers available to help. Locations and hours of operation are posted on the Attorney General's Web site.

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