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GOVERNOR

A. HEATH ABSHURE  
COMMISSIONER



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## ARKANSAS SECURITIES DEPARTMENT

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 15, 2011

Contact Person: Scott Freydl, Staff Attorney

#### **ARKANSAS SECURITIES COMMISSIONER ISSUES A CEASE AND DESIST ORDER STOPPING UNLICENSED MORTGAGE LOAN ACTIVITY**

Arkansas Securities Commissioner A. Heath Abshure issued a Cease and Desist Order today against Attorneys Law Group, Better Home Relief, and Scott B. Hayward. The order reflects that four Arkansas residents received telephone solicitation calls for mortgage loan modification services from employees of Attorneys Law Group and/or Better Home Relief. Attorneys Law Group, Better Home Relief, and their employees were not properly licensed under the Arkansas Fair Mortgage Lending Act during the time of the solicitation of these four Arkansas residents. All four Arkansas residents paid substantial fees to Attorneys Law Group and Better Home Relief, while receiving little or no assistance in modifying their existing mortgage loans. Scott B. Hayward is an attorney/employee of Attorneys Law Group. In two letters Hayward sent to the staff of the Arkansas Securities Department, Hayward falsely claimed that Attorneys Law Group had not conducted any business with Arkansas residents. Staff Attorney Scott Freydl said, "Arkansas residents need to be very careful to make decisions that are based on complete and accurate information concerning any services provided by an individual or company offering to renegotiate or modify an existing mortgage loan. Most mortgage companies already have programs that provide legitimate assistance for consumers that may be having difficulty in making their monthly mortgage payments. Consumers should first contact their mortgage lender or mortgage servicer to discuss any programs or options concerning a modification or renegotiation of the consumer's mortgage. In addition, consumers should keep in contact with their lender or mortgage servicer during the modification or renegotiation process. Arkansas residents are encouraged to contact the Arkansas Securities Department prior to making any mortgage loan decisions in order to find out if the mortgage broker and/or loan officer are properly licensed by the Department."

Should any Arkansas resident have any further information about Attorneys Law Group, Better Home Relief, or Scott B. Hayward, please contact Scott Freydl at 501-324-9266. A copy of the order is available on the Arkansas Securities Department's website, [www.securities.arkansas.gov](http://www.securities.arkansas.gov), order no. C-11-0212-11-OR02, In the Matter of Attorneys Law Group, Better Home Relief, and Scott B. Hayward.