



**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
**Office of the Director**

## **News Release**

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GOVERNOR

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### **STATE SPONSORS CONSUMER EDUCATION FAIR IN HONOR OF NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK**

HONOLULU – The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) is teaming up with federal, state, and local government agencies, as well as national consumer advocacy organizations to launch the 11<sup>th</sup> annual National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW), March 1-7, 2009.

In honor of NCPW, the department is partnering with the U.S. Postal Service to host the NCPW Consumer Education Fair on Friday, March 6 from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at the King Kalakaua Building courtyard, 335 Merchant Street. Consumer education specialists will be available to distribute information and materials to anyone who is interested. Participating agencies are:

- AARP
- Alu Like
- The State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA)
  - Business Action Center
  - Consumer Education Program
  - Division of Consumer Advocacy
  - Insurance Division
  - Investor Education Program
  - Office of Consumer Protection
  - Regulated Industries Complaints Office
  - Securities Enforcement Branch
  - State Certified Arbitration Program
- The State Department of Budget and Finance
  - HI529 College Savings Program
- City and County Elderly Affairs Division

- Hawai'i Council on Economic Education
- Hawai'i Credit Union League
- Hawai'i Homeownership Center
- Hawai'i State Public Library System
- Internal Revenue Service
- Junior Achievement
- Sage PLUS
- SMP Hawai'i/Senior Fraud Squad
- Taxpayer Advocate Service
- University of Hawai'i Cooperative Extension Service
- U.S. Postal Service

According to the Federal Trade Commission, scam artists follow the headlines, and are likely to be using the economic downturn to take advantage of consumers who may be struggling financially.

NCPW 2009 – Nuts and Bolts: Tools for Today's Economy – highlights consumer education efforts across the nation. Information can help people get the most for their money, whether they are trying to stretch their paychecks, find a quick fix for a spotty credit history, or tell the difference between a real deal and a potentially fraudulent product or service.

For more information about NCPW, visit [www.consumer.gov/ncpw](http://www.consumer.gov/ncpw).

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