

# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **COUNTY OF SUMMIT OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS JOINS NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO SPONSOR 11th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK**

County of Summit Office of Consumer Affairs is proud to announce that it has joined a group of local, state, and federal government agencies and national consumer advocacy organizations to launch the 11<sup>th</sup> annual National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW), March 1-7, 2009. This year's theme is *Survive Today's Economy: Avoid ID Theft and Fraudulent Schemes* which focuses on providing Summit County residents with valuable information on how to make smart financial decisions in today's economy. NCPW offers information to 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, deter and detect identity theft, or tell the difference between a real deal and a potentially fraudulent product or service.

"County of Summit Office of Consumer Affairs is proud to be part of this year's National Consumer Protection Week campaign," said Cynthia Sich, Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs. "In times like these, information is one commodity that retains its value."

Participants this year include the County of Summit Executive's Office, Summit County Council, County of Summit Sheriff's Department, County of Summit Prosecutor's Office, County of Summit Office of Consumer Affairs, Ohio Attorney General's Office, Ohio Consumers' Counsel, Ohio Department of Commerce Securities Division, Housing and Urban Development (HUD), United States Postal Service, United States Postal Inspection Service, Better Business Bureau, and Consumer Credit Counseling Service. Presentations are scheduled at various senior centers throughout Summit County during NCPW.

### **PUBLIC IS INVITED TO JOIN US ON**

**Monday, March 2 at 10:30 a.m. at the Ohio Building, 175 S. Main Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Fl, County Council Chambers, Akron**

**Summit County Executive Russell Pry will kick off National Consumer Protection Week along with representatives from participating agencies.**

**Friday, March 6 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. at the Job Center Building, 1040 E. Tallmadge Ave, Akron**

**Participating agencies will be available to answer questions and provide information on how to avoid ID Theft, financial scams, understanding credit reports, and much more.**