



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CITY ATTORNEY DELGADILLO, CA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEYS REACH \$2.5 MILLION SETTLEMENT WITH OFFICE DEPOT FOR ALLEGED OVERCHARGES OF CA CUSTOMERS

LOS ANGELES - Los Angeles City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo today announced that his office, in coordination with the District Attorneys of Santa Clara, Marin, Sonoma, Ventura, Solano, Napa, Shasta, Sacramento, and Los Angeles counties, has reached a settlement in a consumer protection case filed against Office Depot, Inc., the operator of "Office Depot" stores throughout the State of California. The stipulated judgment, which was approved by the Santa Clara County Superior Court, was based on price accuracy inspections conducted by state and local Weights and Measures inspectors.

Office Depot fully cooperated with prosecutors during the course of the investigation and agreed to additional price check programs to enhance its pricing accuracy in the final judgment. Under the terms of the settlement, without admitting any wrongdoing, Office Depot, Inc., agreed to pay \$2,300,000 in civil penalties and \$285,791 to reimburse the costs of investigation, and to offer restitution to the public in the form of a coupon good for \$5.00 off for in-store purchases at California Office Depot stores. The coupon will be prominently placed in an Office Depot Sunday ad circular to be published within the next several months. Office Depot will also provide a price guarantee of up to \$5.00 if, at the time of purchase, a consumer is charged a price that is higher than the lowest advertised price of the item. The accurate price guarantee provides customers with free or discounted items if they are overcharged. The accurate price guarantee will be posted in every store in California.

City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo acknowledged the hard work of Weights and Measures officials throughout the state for their vigilant enforcement efforts in the case.

"Consumers have a right to expect that products will be accurately priced. Our office brings actions like this one to ensure that all merchants comply with their pricing accuracy responsibilities," said City Attorney Delgadillo.

Delgadillo reminded consumers to always check receipts to verify that they are charged the correct price for an item and make an immediate inquiry if they believe they have been incorrectly charged.