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November 9, 2010

MEDIA ALERT

Consumer Protection cites Big Dog Pawn shop for selling stolen goods

(For immediate release...)

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – Francine A. Giani, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Commerce, announced today that the Utah Division of Consumer Protection cited Sandy Pawn LLC also known as Big Dog Pawn and Jewelry for violating the *Utah Pawn and Secondhand Merchandise Transaction Act*. The Administration Citation asserts that Big Dog Pawn failed to obtain legible thumb fingerprints of the seller, sold an item before the required 30-day contract period had passed, and knew at the time of sale that the item was stolen property on a police hold.

“Pawn shops all over our state provide many sources for legal business transactions. However, if a business does not follow the state pawn shop rules, they can expect action by our Division of Consumer Protection,” said Francine A. Giani.

“The Utah Pawn and Secondhand Merchandise Dealers Advisory Board strongly urges honest and ethical dealings by our members to eradicate the problem of stolen goods sold via pawn shop channels to the public. Let this case send a message, any practices that are contrary to the law will not be tolerated,” said Mike Katsanevas, Board Chairman.

Consumers are also reminded to keep track of their own valuables by recording serial numbers and taking photographs of items in their possession and keeping them on file. Some businesses will provide these inventory services to consumers. With the holidays approaching, consumers are encouraged to inventory and photograph expensive items before wrapping them. For more information log on to: www.consumerprotection.utah.gov or call (801) 530-6601.

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