



The Office of the
Minnesota Attorney General
helping people afford their lives and live with dignity and respect

Overview of the Attorney General's Office

Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison

January 5, 2023

Duties of the Attorney General

1. Represents more than 100 State agencies, boards, and commissions.
2. Protects the people of Minnesota as chief enforcer of the State's consumer-protection, antitrust, and charities laws.
3. Provide support in criminal prosecution and in criminal appeals when requested by a county attorney, which is most often on behalf of smaller county attorney offices
4. Defends the constitutionality of State statutes when appropriate.
5. Serves on a number of State Boards, including the Executive Committee, State Board of Investment, and Board of Pardons

Office Organization

- Approximately 340 hard-working employees office-wide
- Four sections of legal work, each led by a Deputy Attorney General or the Solicitor General
 1. Consumer Protection
 2. Health and Safety
 3. Government Support
 4. Solicitor General
- Multiple Divisions within each Section

Division Highlights

- Consumer, Wage, and Antitrust Division
- Consumer Action Division
- Charities Division
- Special Outreach and Protection Unit
- Residential Utilities Division
- Criminal Division
- Medicaid Fraud Division

Value of the Office

The AGO has brought in, returned, or saved Minnesotans **more than \$1.5 billion** over last 3 ½ years

- \$1 billion in savings to residential and small business rate payers through the Residential Utilities Division
- \$300 million to Minnesota from national settlement with opioid manufacturer Johnson + Johnson & three national distributors with \$235 million more expected from recent settlements with another opioid manufacturer and 3 pharmacy chains

Value of the Office

continued

- \$85 million in restitution or loan forgiveness to student borrowers who were defrauded or deceived
- \$81 million to the general fund from Big Tobacco corporations for past-due obligations under the 1998 tobacco settlement, with an additional \$10 million going into the general fund each year thereafter.
- \$26 million directly back to Minnesota consumers through the mediation work of the Consumer Action Division

None of these dollars go to the AGO budget. It all goes to the State or directly to consumers.



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Thank you
