

Attorney General Bill McCollum News Release

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Florida Joins Federal, Multistate Efforts to Protect Consumers in Merger of Ticket Conglomerates

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Attorney General Bill McCollum today announced that Florida and 16 other attorneys general have joined the U.S. Department of Justice in an effort to protect consumers regarding the pending merger of Ticketmaster and Live Nation. As a result of the states' and federal government's efforts, the newly combined company is required to make significant changes to the merger agreement, including undertaking measures ensuring competition is preserved in primary ticketing services for events in the United States. Primary ticketing services include the maintenance of websites and call centers where tickets can be purchased initially for a venue event.

In 2008, Ticketmaster had 80 percent of the primary ticketing services market. Ticketmaster and Live Nation – Ticketmaster's primary source of competition – announced plans to merge in February 2009. The merger was poised to eliminate Ticketmaster's largest competitor in the primary ticketing service market, and as originally proposed, threatened to lessen competition in that market, resulting in higher prices and less innovation for consumers.

After reviewing the proposed merger, the Department of Justice and 17 state Attorneys General decided that divestitures and anti-retaliation provisions were necessary to protect competition. Ticketmaster must provide access to one of its major technology platforms and sell Paciolan, a Delaware corporation that provides ticketing services throughout the United States and is owned by Ticketmaster.

Ticketmaster has agreed to provide its technology platform to AEG Worldwide, the second largest concert promoter in the United States. By acquiring Ticketmaster's technology platform, AEG would be able to provide both primary ticketing and concert promotion services to venues. Additionally, Comcast, as the likely buyer of Paciolan, is expected to become a stronger competitor for primary ticketing services. As a result of their acquiring the divested assets, these companies will have the tools needed to become more effective competitors in primary ticket services.

In addition to divesting assets, the merged entity has agreed that it will not retaliate against a venue that is contracting or is contemplating contracting with another company for ticketing services. Additionally, the merged firm cannot require venues to use the firm's concert promotion services or artists as a condition for using the firm's primary ticketing services. The merged firm may not use concert ticketing data it have collected for the benefit of its non-ticketing businesses or share that data with others.

The settlement, if approved by the court, resolves the competitive concerns of the U.S. Department of Justice, Florida and the other 16 states as set forth in a complaint filed simultaneously with the proposed settlement today in the U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia.

The following Florida venues are among the top 500 Ticketmasters venues in the country:

Carol Morsani Hall – Tampa
 Bank Atlantic Center – Sunrise
 St. Pete Times Forum – St. Pete
 American Airlines Arena – Miami
 Amway Arena – Orlando
 Broward Center Au Rene Theater – Ft. Lauderdale
 Ruth Eckerd Hall – Clearwater
 Cruzan Amphitheatre – West Palm Beach
 Ford Amphitheatre – Tampa
 Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena – Jacksonville
 Bob Carr Performing Arts Center – Orlando
 Dreyfoos Hall – West Palm Beach
 Land Shark Stadium – Miami
 Citrus Bowl – Orlando
 Bicentennial Park – Miami
 Big Cypress Seminole Reservation – Big Cypress
 Seminole Hard Rock Live – Hollywood
 House of Blues – Lake Buena Vista
 UCF Arena – Orlando
 Pensacola Civic Center – Pensacola
 Fillmore Miami Beach at Jackie Gleason Theater – Miami
 Hard Rock Live – Orlando
 St. Augustine Amphitheatre – St. Augustine
 King Center for Performing Arts – Melbourne
 Florida Theater – Jacksonville

The following venues in Florida are owned or controlled by Live Nation:

Cruzan Amphitheatre – West Palm Beach
 The Fillmore Miami Beach at Jackie Gleason – Miami
 Ford Amphitheatre – Tampa
 Florida Theatre – Jacksonville
 Pompano Beach Amphitheater – Pompano Beach
 Big Cypress Indian Reservation – Big Cypress
 Seminole Hard Rock Live – Hollywood
 Bayfront Park Amphitheater – Miami
 House of Blues - Orlando
 Centre for the Arts at Mizner Park Amphitheater – Boca Raton
 City Limits - Delray
 BankAtlantic Center Sinatra Theater Tickets - Sunrise
 St. Lucie County Fairgrounds and Equestrian Center - St. Lucie
 Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall - Sarasota
 The Ritz Ybor - Tampa

**The Club at Firestone - Orlando
Cameo – Miami**