

NAAGazette

A Newsletter of the National Association of Attorneys General

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 2

February 15, 2008

National Association of Attorneys General Hosts Annual Spring Meeting in Nation's Capital March 3-5



LAWRENCE WASDEN, NAAG PRESIDENT AND IDAHO ATTORNEY GENERAL

The National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) will host its annual Spring Meeting, March 3-5, at the Fairmont Hotel in Washington, D.C.

More than 40 Attorneys General from across the country will attend, as well as representatives from the ranks of trade associations, law firms, federal and state government officials and staff

from other interested agencies and associations.

As one of the Association's three national meetings held each year, the Spring Meeting allows Attorneys General to discuss a number of complex legal issues, including cybercrime, Internet safety for children, social networking websites, methamphetamine use, anti-counterfeiting and piracy initiatives, recent decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court, federal legislation and other critical legal areas of interest.

Attorneys General are scheduled to meet with a number of key national figures, including U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts and former U.S. Solicitors General Ted Olson and Walter Dellinger.

Other special guests include former Pennsylvania First Lady, Michele M. Ridge. As the wife of former Governor Tom Ridge and mother of two children, Ridge currently serves as the chair of an innovative project called Vision of Hope, launched by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center and Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape. The project is devoted to ending child sexual abuse. In addition, the Association has invited U.S. Attorney General Michael Mukasey and FBI Director Robert Mueller to discuss mutual law enforcement concerns.

For a copy of the agenda or more information on the Spring Meeting, please visit http://www.naag.org/naag_spring_meeting.php. Or, contact Emily Marthaler at 202-326-6263 or via email at emarthaler@naag.org



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

The Transition to Digital Television: What Consumers Need to Know	2
NAAG Employee Spotlight	3
New Edition of NAAG Powers and Responsibilities Book Now Available.....	4
Current State Efforts to Enforce the Master Settlement Agreement's Cigarette Marketing Restrictions.....	4
NAAG-Led Executive Working Group Discusses Computer Crime	7
CWAG Hosts Bi-National Smuggling Conference	9

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL

ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CHRISTOPHER TOTH

NAAGAZETTE

The NAAGazette is published biweekly and is posted at www.naag.org. To subscribe or for more information, contact Leslie Kershaw at 202-326-6027 or via email at lnelson@naag.org.

EDITOR

ANGELITA PLEMMER
Communications Director

CONTRIBUTORS

NICK ALEXANDER
Criminal Law Counsel

DENNIS CUEVAS
Consumer Protection Project Director and Chief Counsel

ILANA KNOPF
Staff Attorney, Tobacco Project

EMILY MYERS
Antitrust and Special Projects Counsel

LAWRENCE WASDEN
NAAG President and Idaho Attorney General

CREATIVE

LISA JETER
Web Programmer/Designer

PRODUCTION & CIRCULATION

LESLIE KERSHAW
Communications &
Special Projects Assistant

Any use and/or copies of the publication in whole or part must include the customary bibliographic citation. NAAG retains copyright and all other intellectual property rights in the material presented in the publications.

The Transition to Digital Television: What Consumers Need to Know



DENNIS CUEVAS, CONSUMER PROTECTION PROJECT DIRECTOR AND CHIEF COUNSEL

On February 17, 2009, television stations across the country will begin sending computerized digital signals through the air. This switch — from analog to digital broadcast television — is referred to as the digital television transition. Television stations in U.S. markets currently broadcast in both analog and digital; however, Congress mandated that February 17, 2009 would be the last day for television stations to broadcast in analog.

Why the Switch to Digital Television?

The switch to all-digital television is partly a repercussion of the September 11th terrorist attacks when police and fire communications channels were clogged by too much traffic. Converting to digital television will free up parts of the scarce and valuable broadcast spectrum. Those portions of the spectrum can then be used for important services, such as public and safety services (police and fire departments, emergency rescue), and advanced wireless services. Congress set a deadline after the 9/11 Commission reported that first-responder systems needed a major upgrade.

For viewers, digital television can offer improved picture and sound, and potentially more programming options. Digital television can also offer interactive features, such as electronic program guides.

Do Consumers Know About the Switch?

According to a poll conducted by the Cable & Telecommunications Association for Marketing, half of American viewers do not know about the mandatory transition to digital television. An estimated 30 million televisions use traditional antennas and those television sets will “go to snow” without the required digital converter box.

To help consumers with the transition, the federal government established the Digital-to-Analog Converter Box Coupon Program. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration, a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce, administers the program. Every U.S. household may receive up to two coupons, worth \$40 each, toward the purchase of eligible digital-to-analog converter boxes. Consumers may request the coupons this month. The coupons may only be used for eligible converter boxes sold at participating consumer electronics retailers, and the coupons must be used at the time of purchase. The digital-to-analog converter boxes will sell anywhere from \$40 to \$70 each.

For consumers who subscribe to cable, they may receive digital programming if they subscribe to a digital or HD package from a cable provider, and they are viewing the digital programming on a digital set. However, consumers should realize that the digital cable tier and satellite TV service are not necessarily digital television. Cable or satellite television systems may be using digital technology as a more efficient way of deliver-

ing analog programming. However, if consumers have an analog television set, they are probably not getting digital television. It is important for consumers to check with their cable or satellite provider to determine what kinds of programming they receive and what equipment they may need.

In addition, federal law now requires that all television reception devices, including TVs, VCRs and DVRs, imported into the U.S. or shipped in interstate commerce must contain a digital tuner. Retailers may continue to sell analog-only devices from their existing inventory, but must prominently display on or near the analog-only device a consumer alert label that states, “This television receiver has only an analog broadcast tuner and will require a converter box after February 17, 2009, to receive over-the-air broadcasts with an antenna because of the Nation’s transition to digital broadcasting.”



How Do Consumers Know If They Already Have A Digital Television?

Most digital television equipment will have labels or markings on them, or statements in the informational materials to indicate that they contain digital tuners. These labels or markings may contain the words “Integrated Digital Tuner,” “Digital Tuner Built-In,” “Digital Receiver,” or “Digital Tuner,” “DTV,” “ATSC,” or “HDTV” (High Definition television). If consumers’ television equipment contains any of these labels or markings, they should be able to view digital over-the-air programming without the need for a digital-to-analog converter box. Consumers need to realize that they do not need High Definition Television (HDTV) to view free over-the-air digital programming. They simply need television equipment that contains a digital tuner.

If consumers’ television sets are labeled as a “Digital Monitor” or “HDTV Monitor,” or as “Digital Ready” or “HDTV Ready,” this does not mean it actually contains a digital tuner. Thus, consumers still will likely need a separate set-top box, which contains a digital tuner in order to view over-the-air digital programming.

If consumers cannot determine whether their television set or other television equipment contains a digital tuner, they should check with their



When **Ashlee Prevette** told her family that she was ready to leave North Carolina to move to Washington, D.C., they were supportive — but there were definitely some raised eyebrows by her mother, father and younger

brother and sister. The Mocksville native had never ventured too far from her small hometown of 4.5 square miles, populated by 4,187 residents.

A 2007 public policy graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Ashlee was eager to explore her growing interest in public service and the nation’s capital provided the perfect backdrop. Several undergraduate internships and field work in local government led her to reevaluate her initial dreams of attending law school.

“I thought I wanted to go straight into law school, but I was doing work in the policy department with the city of Durham and I was really inspired by the work we were doing through my school,” the Tarheel basketball fan explained.

In August 2007, Ashlee began her first job after college as a project assistant for the Criminal Law and Legislative projects at NAAG.

Today, her day revolves around sign-on letters, discussions on social networking websites, the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, the growing methamphetamine problem for law enforcement, regional meetings and other criminal law-related issues.

“I have to know what’s going on with policy issues and I end up tracking different legislation — really understanding how Attorneys General affect policy,” Ashlee said.

While NAAG offers countless opportunity to understand how the law and policy intersect, Ashlee said she is still very disappointed by one failing of her job — she has yet to meet North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper, who represents most of her family back home.

In her free time, she’s a “do-it-yourselfer,” building her own furniture for her apartment and creating her own wall décor. She also makes a lot of her own jewelry and frequently explores the local music scene, scoping out up-and-coming bands on the cusp of breaking into mainstream. And road trips with friends are a must.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

manufacturer or with an electronics retailer to verify whether their equipment contains a digital tuner.

Outreach Toolkit

The Federal Communications Commission has developed an outreach toolkit that may be used by government agencies, community organizations, and others to conduct DTV Transition Awareness Programs. These materials, found at <http://www.dtv.gov/outreach.html>, are not copyrighted, thus reprint permission is not required. For more information call 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322); TTY: 1-888-TELL FCC (1-888-835-5322).

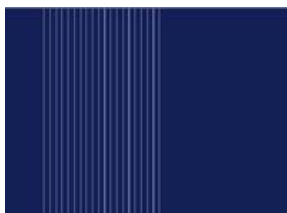
New Edition of NAAG Powers and Responsibilities Book Now Available



EMILY MYERS, ANTITRUST AND SPECIAL PROJECTS COUNSEL

The National Association of Attorneys General is very pleased to announce that the definitive work on state Attorneys General, *State Attorneys General Powers and Responsibilities* (Second Edition) is now available. This useful refer-

ence book updates the previous edition, published in 1990. This book is the only publication that fully explores the unique office of state Attorney General, including its many responsibilities, its authority, and its interaction with other parts of state government. The book includes chapters on such general matters as the common law powers of the Attorney General and the Attorney General's status in state government and control of state litigation, as well as specific areas of the law, including antitrust, consumer protection, communications, open records, environmental law, Supreme Court practice, public lands, water law, Indian law and criminal justice. The second edition includes new chap-



State Attorneys General Powers and Responsibilities

Edited by Emily Myers and Louise Ross National Association of Attorneys General



Second Edition National Association of Attorneys General

ters on bankruptcy and tobacco enforcement. NAAG thanks the many authors and reviewers in state Attorneys General offices across the country who contributed to this book.

Each Attorney General will receive two complimentary copies of the book. If you would like to order a copy, please contact Emily Myers at emyers@naag.org or 202-326-6254. The book is available in hardcover for \$75, plus shipping and handling, and in softcover for \$50, plus shipping and handling. Delivery time is approximately 10 days.

Current State Efforts to Enforce the Master Settlement Agreement's Cigarette Marketing Restrictions

ILANA KNOPF, STAFF ATTORNEY, TOBACCO PROJECT



States that are parties to the tobacco Master Settlement Agreement ("MSA") have become increasingly concerned that several of R.J. Reynolds' ("RJR") recent promotions involving its Camel and Kool cigarette brands violate

provisions in the MSA that restrict the advertising, marketing and promotion of the tobacco companies that have signed the MSA ("Participating Manufacturers" or "PMs"). The promotions employ a broad spectrum of tools to make their products appealing to youth (defined in the MSA as persons under the age of 18) and very young adults (whom youth often try to emulate).

The MSA settled lawsuits brought by 46 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and four territories ("Settling States"), a large number of which had alleged that the defendant tobacco companies had targeted minors in the advertising and promotion of their products. The MSA contains a number of restrictions intended to eliminate those marketing practices or reduce youth exposure to them. These restrictions are in Section III of the MSA; the most general is Section III(a), which prohibits any PM from "tak[ing] any action, directly or indirectly, to target Youth within any Settling State in the advertising, promotion or marketing of Tobacco Products"

Other MSA provisions relevant to preventing youth exposure to tobacco marketing are:

- ◆ Section III(b), which bans PMs from using cartoons in the advertising, promoting, packaging or labeling of Tobacco Products. Cartoons are defined to include “the use of comically exaggerated features” and “the attribution of human characteristics to animals, plants or other objects”
- ◆ Section III(c), which prohibits PMs from engaging in more than one Brand Name Sponsorship in any twelve-month period, and prohibits any sponsorship of certain events, including concerts.
- ◆ Section III(e), which prohibits any payment in exchange for the use, display or reference to a Brand Name in a motion picture or other entertainment medium including videos or video games.
- ◆ Section III(f), which prohibits the distribution or sale of merchandise bearing a Brand Name, which is defined to include logos, symbols, recognizable pattern of colors, or any other “indicia of product identification identical or similar to, or identifiable with, those used for any domestic brand of Tobacco Products.” Exceptions include “written or electronic publications” and merchandise used within an Adult-Only Facility and not distributed to any member of the general public.
- ◆ Section III(l), which requires PMs to commit to, among other things, “clearly and regularly communicate to its employees and customers its commitment to assist in the reduction of Youth use of Tobacco Products.”



From the summer of 2007 through the present, States have been communicating their concerns to RJR that some of its campaigns have violated these restrictions. States have cautioned RJR and, as part of ongoing investigations, have sought additional information regarding The Kool XL campaign and several of the

Camel promotions, including Camel No. 9, Camel Artist Packs, Camel Signature Blends, and Camel “Farm.”

The **Kool XL** promotion involves a package delivered by mail that says on the outside “Cars, Fashion and a Free DVD Inside.” Inside are materials that are clearly designed to appeal to young African-Americans, including coupons, a small magazine with articles on fashion and cars, and a DVD titled, “The Art of 16 Bars,” which describes how to jump-start a rap music career. There is also a promotional website. The States have communicated to RJR their concern that, given youths’ well documented interest in cars, music and fashion, promotions focused on these areas may well be targeting youth in violation of Section III(a). Further, the Kool branding on the DVD packaging may implicate Section III(f)’s ban on Brand Name Merchandise.

The **Camel No. 9** promotion received significant media attention in 2007 when States (as well as several U.S. Senators, members of Congress, and medical, public health and women’s organizations) communicated to RJR their concern that the campaign appealed to girls and very young women through the shiny, bright pink and teal artwork splashed throughout its “vintage” fashion advertisements and other style and beauty tips published in magazines with millions of youth readers. Concerns were also raised by promotional events that were ostensibly restricted to adults but at which goody bags were distributed filled with similarly colored candy-flavored lip gloss, cell-phone jewelry, henna-like wrist bands and other trinkets, and coupons for a clothing store popular with youth. In their correspondence to RJR, the States noted Camel No. 9 promotion’s appeal to youth and the resulting potential Section III(a) Youth Targeting violation, as well as the apparent Section III(f) Brand Name Merchandise violation raised by the goody-bag items.

Another promotion of concern to States involves RJR’s commissioning artwork from various artists to design special packs of Camel cigarettes. The artists have been featured on RJR’s promotional website and some of the artists have displayed their Camel cigarette pack designs on their professional websites. In some cases, the artists’ websites have included an endorsement of RJR for providing the artist the opportunity to have his or her art commissioned. In addition to potentially violating Section III(e)’s prohibition on Payments Related to Tobacco Products and Media, the **Camel Art Packs’** frequent, cartoon-like depictions may violate the Ban on Use of Cartoons (Section III(b)), and the inevitable collection of these limited-edition packs raises Section III(f) (Ban on Brand Name Merchandise) issues.

The **Camel Signature Blends** are advertised and sold in packaging with ornate graphical images that re-

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

semble those of some Camel Artist Packs, thus raising similar Section III(b) and (f) concerns discussed above. The Signature Blends are flavored cigarettes, although their names and advertising do not identify the particular flavors they contain. (In a 2006 settlement agreement, RJR agreed not to market cigarettes with names or advertising that refer to flavors.) The promotion is of further concern to the extent it entices individuals to RJR's interactive website, which invites visitors to vote for their favorite Signature Blends and to participate in other online games and promotions that would appear to appeal to youth and very young adults. Despite the website being theoretically inaccessible to minors, this campaign, and the cigarette blends themselves – distinct flavors blended in one cigarette – are problematic under Section III(a)'s Prohibition on Youth Targeting, given that many youths' initiation to smoking is through flavored cigarettes.

The “Farm” campaign is a clever collection of multimedia advertising material using independent rock bands and their music to promote Camel cigarettes. Despite RJR's Section III(l) obligation to “clearly and regularly communicate to its employees . . . its commitment to assist in the reduction of Youth use of Tobacco Products,” and despite the explicit Ban on Cartoon Use in Section III(b) of the MSA, the campaign uses various images, some considered by States to be cartoons as defined by the MSA, relating to farms and music. These images have been repeatedly used, produced and disseminated since 2006 in posters, newspaper advertisements, an RJR website and other media. The “Farm” cartoons have also been used on “Farm” CDs, and projected on the walls at various age-restricted musical events held across the U.S.

RJR's most prominent use of cartoons in this campaign appeared in the publication of the November 15, 2007, 40th Anniversary Edition of *Rolling Stone* magazine, which contains a nine-page advertising spread filled with cartoon images. The spread consists of a four-page fold out or “gatefold” advertisement, which wraps around and opens to a complementary five-page fold out editorial cartoon poster. RJR's advertisement includes minimal text and many images of whimsical and comically exaggerated animals and objects, the latter viewed by States as cartoons as defined by the MSA. This advertisement promotes RJR's support of independent record labels (“Indie Rock Bands”) through online and live music events.

The editorial cartoon poster, enveloped by the “Farm” advertisement, is entitled “Indie Rock Universe,” and features an artist's cartoon drawing depictions of Indie Rock Bands, many of whom are promoted by RJR's Farm Rocks campaign. The poster is designed to

look like doodles in a grade school student's class notebook.

Additionally, RJR created a website for the “Farm” campaign that included both cartoon images of the type found in the *Rolling Stone Magazine* advertisement and content relating to the *Rolling Stone Magazine* editorial poster. Specifically, the pages in the (age-restricted) website listed Indie Rock labels and artists, including notice of their upcoming events. Fantastic and farm-themed images similar or identical to those in the *Rolling Stone Magazine* advertisement were scattered throughout the website pages.

The “Farm” campaign also issued two music compact discs (“CDs”) featuring RJR-supported Indie Rock bands. These CDs were distributed by RJR to select individuals on RJR's mailing lists living in those states in which RJR was promoting live Indie Rock events. The CD packaging includes the same farm-themed images found in RJR's print advertisement and website. Further, the packaging contains the Camel name, thus posing Section III(f) ban on Brand Name Merchandise concerns, in addition to the apparent violation of the Section III(b) ban on Cartoons.

Faced with such a serious violation of the prohibition against using cartoons in cigarette advertising, Connecticut, California, Illinois, Maryland, Maine, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Washington, coordinated through the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG), filed actions against RJR in December 2007. The cases are in various stages of litigation, and continue to be coordinated through NAAG.



While some may argue that these individual promotions are minor and harmless infractions, at best, these incidents raise more concerns as a group than they do individually because they appear to reflect a systematic targeting of youth through numerous campaigns, each catered to a distinct demographic group or aspect of youth culture, and a marketing philosophy that results

in an unacceptably high level of exposure of youth to RJR's product advertising.

Attorneys General have long recognized that youth access to tobacco products ranks among the nation's most serious public health problems. More than 400,000 Americans die each year from diseases caused by tobacco use and studies show that more than 80 percent of adult smokers begin smoking before the age of 18. Research also indicates that every day in the United States, more than 2,000 people under the age of 18 start smoking – and that one-third of those persons ultimately will die from a tobacco-related disease. In addition, studies show that the earlier in life a person begins smoking, the more difficult it is for him or her to quit later in life.

NAAG-Led Executive Working Group Discusses Computer Crime

Colorado Attorney General Hosts First Meeting of EWG to be Held Outside of the Nation's Capital



NICK ALEXANDER, CRIMINAL LAW COUNSEL

On January 18, 2008, the Executive Working Group on Prosecutorial Relations (EWG) met for the first time outside of Washington, D.C., hosted by Colorado Attorney General John Suthers at his office in Denver, Colorado. The EWG is comprised of principal representatives from the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG), the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) and the U.S. Department of Justice. The group was formed more than 30 years ago in an effort to increase cooperation among federal, state and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies. The overriding purpose is to provide a forum for federal, state and local law enforcement to engage in open and candid discussions regarding areas of mutual concern. The chair of the EWG rotates among the three member organizations. Indiana Attorney General Stephen Carter and Pennsylvania Attorney General Tom Corbett are currently serving as co-chairs of the group on behalf of NAAG.

As is customary, the meeting featured a discussion with the U.S. Attorney General. Recently confirmed Attorney General Michael Mukasey discussed his department's priorities for the coming year. These priorities are national security, violent crimes, public corruption and border security.

The bulk of the meeting focused on issues related to computer crime and included information on legislative initiatives, updates on the techniques used by criminal enterprises and information on potential partnerships and training.

Representatives from the National Cyber Forensics & Training Alliance (NCFTA) presented an overview of their organization and how it might be of assistance to state and local prosecutors/investigators. With both an analytical function, as well as law enforcement personnel from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) working within it, NCFTA provides a full range of services for companies and law enforcement agencies in identifying, tracking and responding to emerging threats to information and network security.

As a non-profit organization, NCFTA serves as a "safe-harbor" for technology companies that provide vital information without fear of commercial trade secrets being put into a public forum, resulting in a competitive disadvantage. NCFTA products include intelligence assessments, alerts and bulletins, client-based products, trend reports, training videos, tutorials and presentations.

Participants were given information on emerging threats from the increased use by criminal groups of bot nets – a network of personal computers taken over by the criminal group using malicious software to gain access and control. These networks of commandeered computers are used for a variety of criminal purposes including spam, identity theft, hacking into financial accounts and intercepting personal financial data. Pharmaceutical fraud is also increasing with industry working together with NCFTA, the FBI, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and others to target counterfeiters, spammers and re-shippers. Chinese, Russian, Canadian, Indian and Pakistani criminal groups are very active in this area. Other areas of concern and increased attention include "carding" forums – websites in which credit card numbers are sold; "pump and dump" stock schemes; and the increasing use of virtual communities by criminal groups – such as Second Life and others.

Participants also heard about recent legislation in Colorado concerning computer crime. Prior to July 2006, there were no specific cyber-related criminal statutes. That changed with the passage of legislation related to Internet luring (with no actual meeting being required to trigger the violation), as well as prohibitions

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

against using a webcam to send inappropriate images. In the 18 months since passage of these measures, more than 250 offenses have been charged, directly proportionate to the number of personnel dedicated to enforcement – the more devoted personnel, the higher rate of discovery of offenses. In addition, Colorado is considering legislation to criminalize the misuse of computers to manipulate the online purchase of tickets for entertainment events. Nicknamed the “Hannah Montana Bill” as a result of the online manipulation of ticket sales for a concert featuring the star of the popular Disney Channel show, the legislation also reflected the experience of Colorado with the sale of World Series tickets this past October. In both cases, organized criminal elements launched massive waves of straw purchases within minutes of ticket sales opening in order to bypass limits set by the vendor, effectively selling out the event almost instantaneously and providing an opportunity to inflate the prices of the tickets available to the public. The measure is currently working its way through the Colorado legislature.

Many places are starting to follow the trend of using the Internet for new and innovative ways of conducting screenings of job applicants. Employers are using profiles on MySpace and other social networking sites to screen potential employees, although many job applicants view their “online life” as separate and distinct from “real life.” Unfortunately, for these applicants, that is no longer the case with instances of lost job opportunities as a result of information found on their very public online profiles.

Social networking sites were also a hot topic with respect to access by parolees and registered sex offenders. Indiana currently has legislation pending that would affirmatively bar any registered sex offender from setting up a profile on a social networking site. In Colorado, certain offenders must abstain from accessing social networking sites as a condition of their parole.

Representatives from the Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section of the Department of Justice (CCIPS) talked about the changing landscape of computer crime. Traditional computer crime had involved hackers and fraudsters, usually operating independently, who attacked non-critical insular targets – usually for bragging rights for their ability to gain access to that which was forbidden. Recently, however, cyber attacks are being perpetrated by highly sophisticated international criminal groups as a result of increasing financial gains that can be obtained through various schemes. With large financial rewards potentially available, as well as the relative anonymity, lack of oversight and jurisdictional concerns, cyber crimes provide an attractive area for criminal enterprises to expand into.

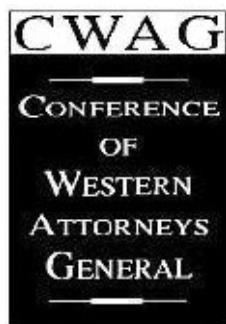
Participants were also given information on the specially designated Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property (CHIP) units within each U.S. Attorney’s office. Seeking to protect the nation’s businesses and citizens from the rising tide of computer crime and intellectual property theft, the CHIP units have at least one specially-designated federal prosecutor in each federal district who works closely with the FBI and other agencies to establish a relationship with the local high-tech community and to encourage them to refer cases to law enforcement.

A recurring theme in all of the presentations quickly emerged – the relative dearth of specialized training available to prosecutors on computer crime issues. As a result of the representation of federal state and local law enforcement, the group may in fact be uniquely situated to bring together the best of existing training opportunities and will further explore potential projects.

The Department of Justice also briefed the group on H.R. 3887, the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2007, provisions of which federalize the crime of pandering. This particular crime has traditionally been enforced at the state and local level. In addition, as a result of the broad language expanding federal authority in this area, certain people who might not be traditionally considered victims of trafficking could potentially be designated as such, including individuals voluntarily engaged in prostitution. Once so designated, these people would be eligible for services funded under the Crime Victims Fund (VOCA), taking resources from those asserting victimization as a result of human trafficking.

The next EWG meeting will be held on May 23, 2008, in Washington, D.C. and will focus on issues related to public corruption. This meeting will also conclude NAAG’s rotation as chair with the Department of Justice assuming leadership at the conclusion of the May meeting.

CWAG Hosts Bi-National Smuggling Conference



The Conference of Western Attorneys General, chaired by Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard, is sponsoring a Bi-National Forum Toward A Regional Multi-Disciplinary Approach Addressing Smuggling on March 10-12, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona. All interested U.S. and Mexico State Attorneys General and federal officials are invited to attend.

The purpose of the conference is to strengthen relations among members of the United States' Conference of Western Attorneys General and Mexico's National Conference of Attorneys General (CNJP). Participants will discuss developing opportunities to work together to reduce smuggling crimes, including human trafficking, drug trafficking, weapons trafficking and other related crimes.

The stakeholders involved in smuggling reduction efforts are faced with a myriad of challenges including an international border, uncoordinated state and federal efforts, limited resources and distinct legal systems. The goal of the conference is to develop concrete strategies to effectively address smuggling in a regional and coordinated manner.

For additional information, please contact Karen White at karen.white@cwagweb.org or Joy Orr at joy.orr@doj.ca.gov or call 916-322-6431.

2008 NAGTRI Training Calendar

The National Attorneys General Training and Research Institute (NAGTRI) was created in 2007 as part of a long-term vision for an organized research and training program. Courses, taught by a diverse national faculty, will cover a broad array of topics for Attorneys General staff. The directory below provides a listing of NAGTRI courses that will be offered in 2008.

Appellate Practice

March 5-6
Washington, DC
Contact: Andrea Hampton
202-326-6011
ahampton@naag.org

Ethical Issues for Government Attorneys (Train the Trainer)

May 29-30
Indianapolis, IN
Contact: Jeffrey Hunter
202-326-6264
jhunter@naag.org

Eastern Region Trial Practice Training

March 16-20
New York, NY
Contact: Dennis Cuevas
202-326-6019
dcuevas@naag.org

Deposition/ Negotiation Training

June 8-12
Chicago, IL
Contact: Dennis Cuevas
202-326-6019
dcuevas@naag.org

Evidentiary Issues Training

May 8-9
Austin, TX
Contact: Dennis Cuevas
202-326-6019
dcuevas@naag.org

Western Region Trial Practice Training

June 22-27
San Diego, CA
Contact: Dennis Cuevas
202-326-6019
dcuevas@naag.org

Electronic Discovery Best Practices

May 13-15
Oxford, MS
Contact: Hedda Litwin
202-326-6022
hlitwin@naag.org

2008 National Association of Attorneys General Calendar

Environmental Chiefs Meeting

February 19-21
Dallas, TX
Contact: Paula Cotter
(202) 326-6250
pcotter@naag.org

Intro to Medicaid Fraud Training

February 26-28
Santa Fe, NM
Contact: Barbara Zelner
(202) 326-6035
bzelner@naag.org

NAAG Spring Meeting

March 3-5
Fairmont Hotel, Washington, DC
Contact: Jeffrey Hunter
(202) 326-6264
jhunter@naag.org

Southern Regional Meeting

March 19-20
Biloxi, MS
Contact: Nick Alexander
(202) 326-6259
nalexander@naag.org

MSA Issues Seminar

April 1-3
Denver, CO
Contact: Erjona Fatusha
(202) 326-6006
efatusha@naag.org

State Defensive Litigation

April 9-11
Savannah, GA
Contact: Karen Cordry
(202) 326-6025
kcordry@naag.org

NAAG Consumer Protection Seminar

April 27-30 (April 28 Open Day)
Washington, DC
Contact: Dennis Cuevas
(202) 326-6019
dcuevas@naag.org

Public Information Officers (PIO) Seminar

April 28-30
Seattle, WA
Contact: Angelita Plemmer
(202) 326-6047
aplemmer@naag.org

NAMFCU Global Case Training

April 29-May 1
Phoenix, AZ
Contact: Barbara Zelner
(202) 326-6035
bzelner@naag.org

Presidential Initiative On Energy

May 6-7
Coeur d'Alene Resort, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
Contact: Paula Cotter
(202) 326-6250
pcotter@naag.org

Chief Deputies Seminar

May 13-15
Santa Fe, NM
Contact: Chris Toth
(202) 326-6021
ctoth@naag.org

NAAG Summer Meeting

June 17-19
Providence, RI
Contact: Jeffrey Hunter
(202) 326-6264
jhunter@naag.org

State Solicitors and Appellate Chiefs Conference

June 17-19
Providence, RI
Contact: Dan Schweitzer
(202) 326-6010
dschweitzer@naag.org

NAMFCU Practical Skills

June 24-26
Denver, CO
Contact: Barbara Zelner
(202) 326-6035
bzelner@naag.org

NAMFCU Annual Training Program

September 7-11
Lake Tahoe, NV
Contact: Barbara Zelner
(202) 326-6035
bzelner@naag.org

Bankruptcy From A Government Perspective

Seattle, WA
September 21-24
Contact: Karen Cordry
(202) 326-6025
kcordry@naag.org

Consumer Protection Meeting

October 25-29
San Antonio, TX
Contact: Dennis Cuevas
(202) 326-6019
dcuevas@naag.org

NAAG Winter Meeting

December 2-5, 2008
Marriott Harbor Beach, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Contact: Jeffrey Hunter
(202) 326-6264
jhunter@naag.org