

AG Koster announces distribution for consumers in \$400 million e-books settlement

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Jefferson City, Mo. – Attorney General Chris Koster announced today that beginning Tuesday, June 21, 2016, Missouri consumers can expect to receive their share of a \$400 million settlement reached with Apple. The settlement resolved claims brought by Missouri and 32 other states that Apple conspired with retailers to raise the price of e-books from 2010 to 2012.

Eligible consumers who purchased e-books during the relevant time period through Amazon, Apple, Barnes & Noble, and Kobo will receive account credits, unless a check was requested. Consumers should receive an email no later than June 24, 2016, advising them that a credit has been issued to their account.

Eligible Sony customers will automatically receive a check in the mail, regardless of whether a claim was filed. Eligible Google customers will receive a check if they filed a claim by the claim deadline of October 31, 2014.

The amount received by each consumer is based on the number of qualifying books a consumer purchased during the claim period (April 1, 2010 to May 21, 2012). Books that had hard cover versions on the New York Times Bestseller List during the relevant time period are eligible for a credit of \$6.93 per book. Other books are eligible for a credit of \$1.57 per book.

The account credits can be used to purchase anything that the retailer sells. Barnes & Noble credits may be also used in their physical stores. All credits and checks will expire on June 24, 2017 if not used by that date.

“We proved in court that Apple conspired with publishers to increase the costs to consumers for e-books,” Koster said. “Now consumers will receive credits they are due.”

For additional information on the e-books settlement distribution, consumers can visit the website: www.Ebookslawsuits.com or call the settlement administrator’s toll free number: 866-686-9333.

As always, consumers may also contact the Missouri Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Hotline at 800-392-8222 with questions.

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