

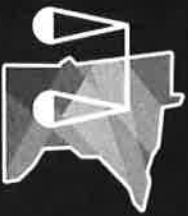
The Office of
Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison
helping people afford their lives and live with dignity, safety, and respect • www.ag.state.mn.us

PRESENTATION BY THE OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison

House Fraud Prevention and State Agency Oversight Policy Committee

April 2028, 2025



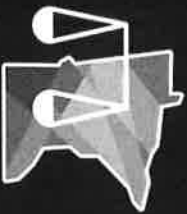
Duties of the Attorney General's Office

1. Represent more than 100 state agencies, boards, and commissions in litigation and other legal matters. This include defending the constitutionality of State law against legal challenges.
2. Support county attorneys with criminal prosecutions and appeals upon their request, and in sharing original jurisdiction over Medicaid fraud with the federal government.
3. Serve on several state boards, including the Executive Committee, the State Board of Investment, and the Board of Pardons
4. Chief enforcer of the State of Minnesota's consumer protection, antitrust, and charities laws



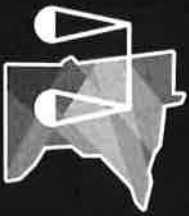
Agency Representation

- Work on behalf of the more than 100 agencies, boards and commissions.
- 30 agencies, boards and commissions are billed for the services of my office.
- Over 70 receive our representation without direct billing.
- Billing rates are set every even-numbered year, per Minnesota Statute 8.15.
- The current billing rate is \$163/hour for attorneys and \$103/hour for other work.

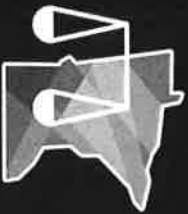


MDE/Feeding Our Future

- March 2020 – COVID-19 Pandemic begins
 - ❖ Families First Coronavirus Response Act waivers issued by federal government
- November 2020 – Feeding Our Future Lawsuit against MDE
- June 2021 – MDE sanctioned by District Court
- December 2021 – Constituent Meeting
- January 2022 – FBI Search Warrants executed
- March 2022 – AGO Charities Division files for dissolution of Feeding Our Future
- September 2022 – Department of Justice issues 49 indictments

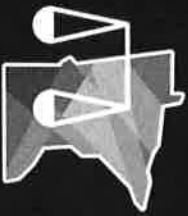


- Under current state law, there is no statute that would have allowed my Office to criminally prosecute Feeding Our Future.
- We have used our authority as the top regulator of charities, charitable trusts, and nonprofits in Minnesota to shut down over 20 charities created or revived to perpetuate the Feeding Our Future fraud.
- In March of 2022, as a result of our own thorough investigation, we filed for the dissolution of Feeding our Future itself.
- Case is still pending in Dakota County.



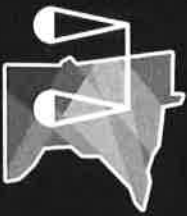
Medicaid Fraud Control Unit

- Minnesota's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit has existed for over 40 years.
- One of 53 in the country – every State has one, as do DC, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands.
- Funded by a federal grant from the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General.
- Grant covers 75% of our funding, state pays the remaining 25%.
- Required to spend 100% of our time investigating and prosecuting Medicaid provider fraud, and the abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of vulnerable adults residing in certain settings.
- Over the past five years, Minnesota has only spent about \$5 million on our Medicaid Fraud Control Unit.
- In that same time, the unit won \$53 million in restitution and recoveries, more than many states with budgets two or three times larger than ours.



Charities Division

- Maintain a public registry of charities, charitable trusts, and professional fundraisers.
- Oversee and regulate charities, charitable trusts, and nonprofits.
- Enforce state charitable solicitation, charitable trust, and nonprofit laws.
- Since 2019, Charities has resolved over 50 investigations through formal civil tools including litigation or Assurances of Discontinuance.
- Involuntarily dissolved over 30 fraudulent charities since 2019.
- Conduct dozens of additional investigations every year into potentially concerning conduct to help detect and correct potential concerns.



Helping Minnesotans Afford their Lives

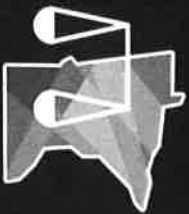
- Mission is to help Minnesotans afford their lives, and live with dignity, safety, and respect.
- Over the past six years, we've protected the State of Minnesota and its residents from harm.
- In that time, we've contributed \$2.1 billion to the bottom line of both the State of Minnesota and Minnesota households.



Contributing to the State

Examples include:

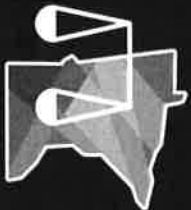
- Over \$40 million to the State's General Fund
- \$565 million in settlements with opioid companies. \$183 million of that amount has already been received.
- \$81 million for the State's tobacco fund, and a recent judgment that the State may be owed up to \$58 million more
- Over \$60 million in settlements Juul and Altria over their deceptive marketing of e-cigarettes



Contributing to Households

Examples include:

- More than \$85 million in restitution and debt relief in student-loan scams
- \$51 million directly to Minnesotans' pockets from the work of the Consumer Action Division
- \$9 million in restitution for customers of CenturyLink and \$4 million in restitution and debt relief for customers of Comcast for fraudulent and deceptive overbilling
- \$4 million in restitution and debt relief for tenants
- More than \$2 million in improperly withheld wages returned to the pockets of Minnesota workers



Thank you
