



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.*



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

**Thank you**

---