

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO

)	Case No. Judge	CIU2U14U1390 Duhan
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)		OR DECLARATORY JUNCTIVE RELIEF,
)	RESTITUTION,	AND
)	CIVIL PENALTI	ES
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)) Judge)) COMPLAINT FO JUDGMENT, IN. RESTITUTION,

JURISDICTION

- 1. Plaintiff, State of Ohio, by and through Counsel, the Attorney General of Ohio, Michael DeWine, having reasonable cause to believe that violations of Ohio's consumer protection laws have occurred, brings this action in the public interest and on behalf of the State of Ohio under the authority vested in him by the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act ("CSPA"), R.C. 1345.01 et seq.
- 2. The actions of Defendant, hereinafter described, have occurred in the State of Ohio and Lucas County and various other counties and, as set forth below, are in violation of the CSPA, R.C. 1345.01 et seq. and the Ohio Administrative Code ("O.A.C."), 109:4-3-01 et seq.

- Jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action lies with this Court pursuant to R.C.
 1345.04 of the CSPA.
- 4. This Court has venue to hear this case pursuant to Ohio Civ.R. 3(B)(3), in that some of the transactions complained of herein, and out of which this action arose, occurred in Lucas County.

DEFENDANT

- Defendant Monroe Dodge-Chrysler, Inc., doing business as the Monroe Dodge Chrysler Jeep Superstore, is a Michigan corporation with its principal place of business located at 15160 S.
 Monroe St., Monroe, Michigan 48161.
- Defendant is a licensed vehicle dealer for new and used vehicles in the State of Michigan,
 License No. A004731.
- 7. Defendant is a "supplier" as that term is defined in R.C. 1345.01(C) since Defendant is, or at all times relevant was, engaged in the business of effecting consumer transactions by advertising, offering for sale, and selling motor vehicles to individuals in Lucas County and other counties in the State of Ohio for purposes that were primarily for personal, family or household use, within the meaning specified in R.C. 1345.01(A) and (D).

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 8. Defendant is, and has been at all times relevant to this action, engaged in the business of advertising and offering motor vehicles for sale in the State of Ohio, including in Lucas County, through the use of print media.
- Defendant solicited individual consumers to enter into consumer transactions, specifically for the purchase of motor vehicles.

- 10. Defendant placed advertisements for its vehicles in the newspaper <u>The Toledo Blade</u>, which is circulated in Lucas County and other counties in Ohio. (See Exhibits A, B, and C. These exhibits are copies of advertisements and have been reduced in size in order to fit the page.)
- 11. Defendant advertised its vehicles on its website, www.monroesuperstore.com and the Toledo
 Blade's website, www.toledoblade.com, where such advertisements were viewed by Ohio residents. (See Exhibits D and E. These exhibits are PDF images of the web pages.)
- 12. Defendant advertised vehicles for sale and failed to disclose all required terms, including the fact that the transaction was a lease, the amount due at lease inception, and the number of payments required.
- 13. Defendant advertised motor vehicles for sale at specific prices that not all consumers qualified for, including employee and family pricing and limited rebates for lease loyalty. Defendants failed to disclose the price that all consumers would qualify for in an equally clear and conspicuous manner.
- 14. Defendant advertised motor vehicles without clearly and conspicuously disclosing in close proximity to the offer any material exclusions, reservations, limitations, modifications, or conditions to the advertised offer. Specifically, the Defendant failed to clearly and conspicuously disclose residency restrictions and made additional statements of exclusions, reservations, limitations, modifications, or conditions to its offers which appear in small-print footnotes to its advertisements.

PLAINTIFF'S CAUSES OF ACTION

ADVERTISEMENT AND SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES RULE

15. Plaintiff incorporates by reference, as if completely rewritten herein, the allegations set forth in paragraphs One through Fourteen (1-14) of this Complaint.

16. Defendant committed unfair or deceptive acts or practices in violation of the CSPA, R.C. 1345.02(A), and the Advertisement and Sale of Motor Vehicles Rule, O.A.C. 109:4-3-16(B)(21), by advertising a price which included a deduction for a discount or rebate for which not all consumers would qualify.

ADVERTISEMENT AND SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES RULE

- 17. Plaintiff incorporates by reference, as if completely rewritten herein, the allegations set forth in paragraphs One through Fourteen (1-14) of this Complaint.
- 18. Defendant committed unfair or deceptive acts or practices in violation of the CSPA, R.C. 1345.02(A), and the Advertisement and Sale of Motor Vehicles Rule, O.A.C. 109:4-3-16(D)(2), by advertising motor vehicles for sale and failing to clearly and conspicuously disclose all required terms, including the fact that the transaction was a lease, the amount due at lease inception, and the number of payments.

EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS IN ADVERTISING RULE

- 19. Plaintiff incorporates by reference, as if completely rewritten herein, the allegations set forth in paragraphs One through Fourteen (1 − 14) of this Complaint.
- 20. Defendant committed deceptive acts or practices in violation of the CSPA, R.C. 1345.02(A), and the Exclusions and Limitations in Advertisements Rule, O.A.C. 109:4-3-02(A)(1), by failing to clearly and conspicuously disclose in close proximity to the offer any material exclusions, reservations, limitations, modifications, or conditions.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court grant the following relief:

- ISSUE A DECLARATORY JUDGMENT declaring that each act or practice complained
 of herein violates the CSPA and the O.A.C. in the manner set forth in this Complaint.
- 2. ISSUE PERMANENT INJUNCTIVE RELIEF enjoining Defendant Monroe-Dodge Chrysler, Inc., doing business as the Monroe Dodge Chrysler Jeep Superstore, its agents, representatives, salespeople, employees, successors and assigns, and all persons acting in concert or participating with it, directly or indirectly, from engaging in the acts or practices of which Plaintiff complains and from further violating the CSPA, R.C. 1345.01 et seq.
- ORDER Defendant liable for reimbursement to all consumers found to have been damaged by the Defendant's unfair and deceptive acts and practices.
- 4. ASSESS, FINE, and IMPOSE upon Defendant a civil penalty of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) for each violation described herein, pursuant to R.C. 1345.07(D).
- 5. GRANT Plaintiff its costs in bringing this action.
- 6. ORDER Defendant to pay all court costs.
- 7. GRANT such other relief as the Court deems to be just, equitable, and appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,

MICHAEL DEWINE Ohio Attorney General

Megan E. McNulty (0078391)

Associate Assistant Attorney General

Consumer Protection Section

One Government Center, Suite 1340

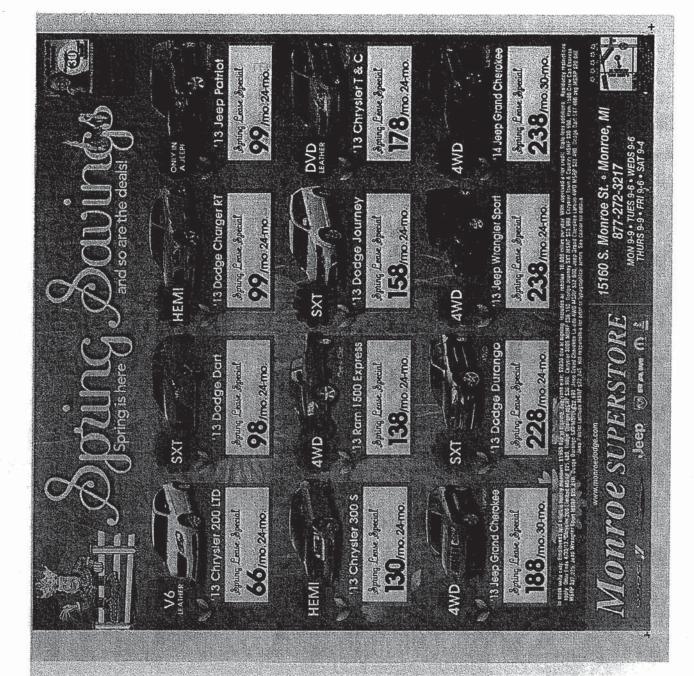
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megan.mcnulty@ohioattorneygeneral.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff



STATE'S EXHIBIT



n monroedodge.com

ONITO & SUPERSTORE

MON 9 9 - 1 UES S - 5 Monroe, MI

877-272-3217

MON 9 9 - 1 UES 9-6 - WEDS 9-6

THURS 9-9 - FRI 9-6 - SAT 9-4



Tolecto Blade, 5.80-13

STATE'S EXHIBIT









PFNK YOUR BIDE for yet 8.99 and you get Pink Stripe Graphics installed, a Cool pink swag bag, and a portion of the proceeds benefit the Monne Canoer Institute and Xarmanos Cancer Institutes.

October is "Breast Cancer Awareness" Month!















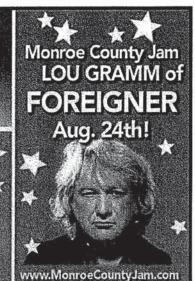
It's The Low Payment King's RAMS & JAMS Sales Event!!



Return of the RAMINATOR

Saturday, August 17th! FREE Car Crush Show at 1 p.m. FREE Jeep Off Road Course Rides All Day

Pig Roast with donations going to Military Families of Monroe County Autographs & Photographs with RAMINATOR driver Mark Hall



THE LOW PAYMENT KING WILL MATCH YOUR DOWN PAYMENT UP TO \$999 ON SELECT NEW IN-STOCK MODELS WHEN YOU FINANCE OR LEASE



14 Jeep Patriot Latitude

These Leases are for Everyone!



'13 Chrysler 200



'13 Dodge Journey



'13 Chrysler T & C



'13 Dodge Charger RT



'13 Chrysler 300 S



'14 Jeep Grand Cherokee



'13 Dodge Durango

SUMMER CLEARANCE EVENT

*In slock units only, 24 month lease, includes all rebates, includes \$999 Down Payment and \$999 LPK malch, 10,000 miles per year, 25 per mile thereafter, With approved A liter credit. State Fees additional. Residency restrictions apply, Jeep Patriot MSRP \$22,409, Chrysler 200 MSRP \$25,875, Dodge Charger MSRP \$30,990, Chrysler 300 MSRP \$36,830, Dodge Journey MSRP \$24,090, Chrysler Town & Country MSRP \$31,525, Jeep Grand Cherokee MSRP \$33,505, Dodge Durango MSRP \$32,860, Offer ends August 30, 2013. Not responsible for typographical errors.

www.monroedodge.com

roe superstore

Jeep



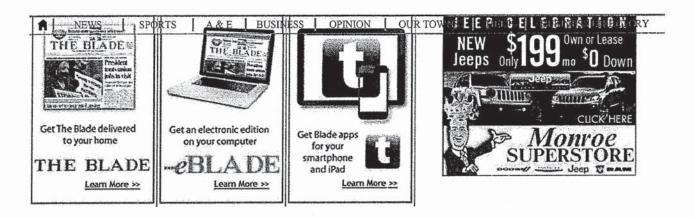
15160 S. Monroe St. • Monroe, MI 877-284-5107 MON 9-9 • TUES 9-6 • WEDS 9-6 THURS 9-9 • FRI 9-6 • SAT 9-4

Employees & Eligible Family

Members Save Even More!







SECTIONS	MEDIA	REWARDS	ADVERTISING	SUBSCRIPTION	RELATED SITES	ABOUT	FOLLOW
News	Newspaper	Contests	Give us a Week	Subscribe	OurTownSylvania	Contact Us	Facebook
Sports	eBlade	Coupon Queen	Advertising in	Renew	Campus	About Us	Twitter
A&E	iPad App	Weekly Ads	Toledo	Manage	Connection	Privacy Policy	
Business	iPhone App		Credit Application	Pay your bill	OurTownPerrysburg	About Our Ads	RSS
Opinion	Android App		Place an Ad	Delivery Problem?	NIE	Terms of Service	Gametrac
Obituaries	Photo Reprints		Online Advertising	Single Copy	ProTalk	Site Map	
Classifieds	100 A 100 210 3 44 4 1 1 M 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		Weekly Ad Upload	Locations	Most Wanted	Visitor Agreement	
Jobs							
Archive							

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