

# Troutman Pepper State Attorneys General Monitor — August 29, 2024

## WRITTEN BY

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State attorneys general increasingly impact businesses in all industries. Our nationally recognized state AG team has been trusted by clients for [20 years](#) to navigate their most complicated state AG investigations and enforcement actions.

*State Attorneys General Monitor* analyzes regulatory actions by state AGs and other state administrative agencies throughout the nation. Contributors to this newsletter and related [blog](#) include attorneys experienced in regulatory enforcement, litigation, and compliance.

Contact our State AG Team at [StateAG@troutman.com](mailto:StateAG@troutman.com).

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## State AG Updates

### TICKETING COMPANY AGREES TO COVID-19 CUSTOMER REFUNDS

By [Troutman Pepper State Attorneys General Team](#)

California Attorney General (AG) Rob Bonta has [settled](#) with StubHub, Inc. (StubHub) for alleged violations of the Unfair Competition Law and False Advertising Law. The complaint accuses StubHub of making misleading statements to induce the public to purchase tickets on its platform. Specifically, the complaint highlights StubHub's "FanProtect" guarantee, which promised full refunds for canceled events — a promise that StubHub allegedly failed to honor during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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### BATTLE OVER MILLIONS: NORTH CAROLINA AG FIGHTS TO KEEP SMITHFIELD'S ENVIRONMENTAL FUNDS FROM SCHOOLS

By [Troutman Pepper State Attorneys General Team](#)

In a recent development, North Carolina Attorney General (AG) Josh Stein announced his intention to appeal a Wake County Superior Court decision regarding allocation of environmental grant funds from Smithfield Foods. The ruling, which favors redirecting these funds exclusively to public schools, has sparked a legal debate with significant implications for environmental initiatives and educational funding in the state.

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## NEW HAMPSHIRE AG FILES CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST OWNER FOR CPA VIOLATIONS

By [Troutman Pepper State Attorneys General Team](#)

On August 20, New Hampshire Attorney General (AG) John Formella announced the arrest of Ricky Southers, the owner of Southers Construction, Inc., for allegedly violating the terms of an injunction issued under the state's Consumer Protection Act (CPA). Earlier this year, Formella filed a civil complaint against Southers and his construction company, alleging numerous and repeated violations of the CPA. The court ordered a temporary restraining order, followed by an injunction, which imposed strict requirements on how Southers can operate his business in the state. Southers has been charged with criminal violations after allegedly failing to comply with the temporary restraining order and injunction.

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### AG Of the Week

#### STEVE MARSHALL, ALABAMA

Steve Marshall was sworn in as the 48th AG of the state of Alabama on February 10, 2017. Prior to taking office, Marshall was the district attorney for Marshall County, a post he held for 16 years.

After graduating law school, Marshall joined Maynard Cooper and Gale PC, (Birmingham and Montgomery offices), where he practiced until 1995. In 1995, wanting to open a small-town practice, he moved to Guntersville, AL and formed McLaughlin & Marshall.

Marshall received his undergraduate education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and his legal education at the University of Alabama School of Law, graduating from both with academic honors. At The University of Alabama School of Law, he was a member of the *Alabama Law Review* and was selected to the Order of the Coif.

Marshall also serves as a member of the executive committee of the Republican AG Association.

Marshall and his wife, Tammy, share three children.

#### Alabama AG in the News

- On August 16, Marshall [announced](#) temporary restraining orders have been obtained against five alleged illegal gambling facilities in Selma.
- On August 5, Marshall [joined](#) a coalition of 21 AGs in asking the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia to uphold the national TikTok divest-or-ban legislation passed by Congress.
- On July 31, Marshall [announced](#) the arrest of a candidate for District 5 of the Clay County Commission, alleging voter fraud.

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## Upcoming AG Events

- September: NAAG | Presidential Summit | Portland, OR
- September: RAGA | Senior Staff Meeting | Palm Beach, FL
- September: NAAG | Eastern Regional Meeting | Wilmington, DE

For more on upcoming AG Events, [click here](#).

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