

Troutman Pepper State Attorneys General Monitor — February 15, 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.

Podcast

FROM THE COURTROOM TO THE CAPITOL: OREGON AG ELLEN ROSENBLUM TALKS LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY, AND THE JOURNEY TO PUBLIC SERVICE

By [Stephen Piepgrass](#) and Judy Jagdmann

In the latest episode of *Regulatory Oversight*, Troutman Pepper partner and former Virginia AG Judy Jagdmann is joined by Oregon AG Ellen Rosenblum to discuss her journey from being a federal prosecutor and state trial and appellate judge, to becoming Oregon's AG.

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State AG Updates

19 STATE AGS SUPPORT FTC'S PROPOSED RULE PROHIBITING "JUNK" FEES

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

On February 7, a coalition of 19 state attorneys general (AG) filed a [comment letter](#) supporting the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) proposed [Trade Regulation Rule on Unfair or Deceptive Fees](#) (Rule). The state AGs echoed the sentiment that the proposed rule would provide much-needed safeguards for consumers against unfair or

deceptive fees that are a “prevalent problem in many different types of industries.”

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NY AG SECURES \$77M JUDGEMENT WITH MERCHANT CASH ADVANCE COMPANIES

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

On February 8, New York attorney general (AG) Letisha James [announced](#) a \$77 million [judgment](#) with three merchant cash advance (MCA) companies, Richmond Capital Group, Ram Capital Funding, and Viceroy Capital Funding, and their principals. AG James sued the companies in 2020, alleging they engaged in exploitive lending practices with small businesses, such as charging high interest rates, undisclosed fees, debiting excess amounts, and fraudulently securing judgments against them.

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MASSACHUSETTS COURT REJECTS STATE AG’S EFFORT TO VACATE ORDER IN SETTLED LIQUOR LAW DISPUTE

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

On January 26, a Massachusetts Superior Court [rejected](#) an effort by the Massachusetts Attorney General (AG) to vacate an order that cast doubt on the constitutionality of a new Massachusetts liquor law.

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PENNSYLVANIA AG SETTLES WITH DEBT SERVICES LAW FIRM

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

Pennsylvania Attorney General (AG) Michelle Henry reached a [settlement](#) with attorney Erik Helbing and his business, Helbing Law Group, LLC, resolving allegations of deceptive advertising practices and failure to effectively deliver on promised debt settlement services. The law firm advertised that it could facilitate significant reduction in client debts through negotiation or litigation processes using licensed attorneys. According to Henry, these advertisements were false or misleading.

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Stephanie Kozol, Senior Government Relations Manager – State Attorneys General, also contributed to this newsletter.

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