

ATTORNEY GENERAL



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Lisa Madigan (Democrat) was elected to a fourth term as attorney general on Nov. 4, 2014. She is the first woman to hold the office and the senior-most female attorney general in the country.

Attorney General Madigan has established a national reputation for her aggressive efforts to protect consumers, safeguard communities and promote safe, honest government. As a consumer protection advocate, Madigan led the nation in taking action against the country's biggest mortgage lenders for the 2008 economic collapse and subsequent foreclosure crisis. As a result, Illinois homeowners, communities and pension systems received more than \$2.8 billion in relief from banks and other financial institutions that contributed to the crisis. She also has fought to protect Illinois utility customers from unfair, unnecessary rate increases, securing more than \$2 billion in savings and refunds. Since 2003, the Attorney General's office has collected more than \$10 billion in revenue for the state.

As part of her work to protect Illinois' communities, Madigan has championed tougher sanctions on sex offenders and passed stronger laws to prosecute sexual violence. Madigan leads the Illinois Internet Crimes Against Children task force, which arrests sexual predators for exploiting innocent children, and she leads a statewide operation to arrest the most prolific traders of child pornography online.

Madigan has worked to keep nursing home residents safe, crafting a law to require background checks and criminal analyses of nursing home employees and residents. She also proposed legislation to allow nursing home residents and their families to install video or audio devices in their rooms to monitor their care.

Madigan's work to make Illinois government more open and accessible led to the effort to strengthen the state's sunshine laws and the permanent establishment of the state's Public Access Counselor. She also created a Public Integrity Unit to investigate fraud and protect the taxpayers, leading to the convictions of elected officials, public employees and government vendors.

Before becoming attorney general, Madigan served in the Illinois Senate and worked as a litigator for a Chicago law firm. She also was a teacher and community advocate and volunteered as a high school teacher in South Africa during apartheid.

Madigan earned her bachelor's degree from Georgetown University and her J.D. from Loyola University Chicago School of Law. She and her husband, Pat Byrnes, have two daughters.

Office of the Attorney General

The attorney general is the lawyer for the state and people of Illinois. The attorney general advocates for consumers, protects children, safeguards the environment, enforces open government laws and protects the rights of Illinois' most vulnerable residents.