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## State of Utah Department of Commerce

FRANCINE GIANI  
Executive Director

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Deputy Director

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### MEDIA ALERT

**Commerce cites Michigan Company for violating Consumer Sales Act**  
***"Mandatory Poster Agency tried to pressure grocers with fake Utah law"***  
**(For immediate release...)**

**SALT LAKE CITY, Utah** – Francine Giani, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Commerce, announced today that the Division of Consumer Protection has issued an Administrative Citation against Mandatory Poster Agency Inc. aka "Utah Food Service Compliance Center" for allegedly pressuring Utah grocery stores into purchasing products under false claims they were part of a state and federal food safety program. Mandatory Poster Agency faces \$25,000 in fines for deceptive acts and practices in connection with a consumer transaction under the *Utah Consumer Sales Practices Act*.

"Mandatory Poster Agency created a web of lies to make Utah grocery stores think their hand-washing safety posters were required by the State of Utah," said Francine Giani, "Turns out they have been trying this scam in other states so we want to make Utah businesses aware of this fraud."

According to the investigation, Mandatory Poster Agency rented a post office box in Utah and sent letters to ten members of the Utah Food Industry Association claiming they were representatives of the "Utah Food Service Compliance Center". Their letter outlined recent changes to new hand washing requirements in state and federal code, even though no such code exists in Utah. The letter directed businesses to purchase posters from Mandatory Poster Agency in order to comply with what the letter falsely alleged to be new law. The letter claimed if stores did not comply they could face a fine of \$2,500.00, lose their business license and possibly face civil liability actions. The Division of Consumer Protection concluded the letters sent by Mandatory Poster Agency were a scare tactic as members of the Utah Food Industry Association had worked closely with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food along with the Utah Health Department in adopting food code regulations.

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