

# 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.

Recognized for her leadership and integrity, Madigan has brought a high level of activism to the office. She has demonstrated principled leadership as the state's top legal advocate in protecting the people and communities of Illinois. Under Madigan's direction, her office has collected more than \$13 billion for the state.

Madigan has established a national reputation for safeguarding consumers from financial fraud and discriminatory lending in mortgage, student and payday loans. Madigan led the nation in taking action against the country's biggest mortgage lenders for their role in the 2008 economic collapse and subsequent foreclosure crisis. During her terms, she has taken legal action against banks and other financial institutions that has delivered more than \$3 billion in relief for Illinois homeowners, communities and pension funds.

The Attorney General's efforts to protect women, children and seniors have garnered national attention. She has advocated for stronger laws to protect women and children from sexual violence and drafted a new law that made Illinois the first state in the country to mandate testing of sexual assault evidence kits. The Attorney General leads a statewide task force to investigate online child exploitation, and she has championed tougher sanctions against sexual predators. Madigan also has increased protections for nursing home residents, including a bill that allows cameras and monitoring devices in residents' rooms.

Madigan created the first Public Access Counselor and strengthened the state's sunshine laws. She also created a Public Integrity Unit to investigate fraud and protect 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 was also a teacher and community advocate and volunteered as a high school teacher in South Africa during apartheid.

Madigan earned her bachelor's 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 people and State 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.