

## San Diego City Attorney Jan I. Goldsmith

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Business Owner Pleads Guilty to Illegal Loan Modifications City Attorney's Office seeks homeowners victimized by Nations Mortgage Solutions

**San Diego, CA:** Distressed homeowners were lured with the promise of lower monthly payments. That's why several San Diego homeowners signed up with *Nations Mortgage Solutions* to help modify their mortgage – for an up-front fee. Such fees are illegal under California law.

Christopher Dixon, owner of *Nations Mortgage Solutions*, pleaded guilty in San Diego Superior Court on June 17, 2011, to acting as a real estate agent without a license in connection with home loan modifications. Dixon was ordered not to act as a real estate broker without a license and ordered to pay a \$1,000 fine. He paid \$6,500 in restitution to the individuals who had been identified as victims of the crime.

The San Diego City Attorney's Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit filed charges against Dixon last year after investigating consumer complaints from homeowners who paid him \$1,000 to \$3,000 for loan modification services. None of the homeowners received new loans.

"Our office will continue to aggressively prosecute those who take advantage of San Diego homeowners who are just trying to get help in lowering their monthly payments," said City Attorney Jan Goldsmith. "Homeowners seeking such help should never pay for such a service until the person offering modification services has completed all the work promised."

The City Attorney's Office was not able to locate all the individuals who sought home loan modification assistance from *Nations Mortgage Solutions*. The Court ordered Mr. Dixon to pay full restitution to victims who come forward with valid claims within sixty days. Dixon must make full refunds to homeowners who paid him up-front for home loan modifications. Homeowners who believe they are victims of *Nations Mortgage Solutions* are urged to file a claim with the City Attorney's Office immediately by calling the City Attorney's Help Line at (619) 533-5600.

The <u>Consumer Environmental Protection Unit</u> (CEPU) prosecutes violations of law that arise from consumer transactions or actions that damage the environment.

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