



For Immediate Release

MEDIA ADVISORY

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IPC and IL Attorney General Address Dangers of Synthetic Drugs and Other Poisons

Poisoning is the #1 cause of unintentional injury-related death in Illinois.

(CHICAGO) March 15, 2012 – The Illinois Poison Center will host a press conference with Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan to discuss the poisoning epidemic in Illinois in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of National Poison Prevention Week.

The press conference will be held on Monday, March 19 at 1:00 p.m. at the Illinois Poison Center, 222 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1900, Chicago.

Attorney General Lisa Madigan will discuss the importance of regulating potentially deadly poisons such as synthetic drugs. Dr. Michael Wahl, Illinois Poison Center Medical Director will talk about the poisoning epidemic Illinois is facing and initiatives to reduce poisonings in Illinois. Attendees will also hear from Joy Shadden, a parent and IPC caller whose son benefited from the timely, expert medical advice provided by the IPC after he ingested a bottle of cough syrup.

Poisoning is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related deaths in the U.S. surpassing firearms and motor vehicle accidents. In Illinois, hospitalizations for poisoning exceeded admissions for motor vehicle accidents and firearms combined.

Reporters will have an opportunity to take photos and film b-roll in the Illinois Poison Center's call center after the event.

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The Illinois Poison Center is a non-profit health service that provides the people of Illinois with comprehensive and trusted information and treatment advice on potentially harmful substances via a free, confidential 24-hour hotline staffed by specially trained doctors, nurses and pharmacists.