

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, Governor

13-204.

In addition to any other of its powers and duties, the Division has the powers and duties to:

(1) Receive and investigate complaints from any person affected by any potential or actual violation of this title;

(2) Initiate its own investigation of any unfair and deceptive trade practice;

(3) In accordance with § 13-402 of this title, conciliate all matters covered by this title;

(4) In accordance with § 13-403 of this title, issue a cease and desist order with respect to any practice found by the Division to be an unfair or deceptive trade practice;

(5) In cooperation with the Department of Licensing and Regulation, suspend or revoke the license of any merchant who refuses to cease and desist from engaging in an unfair or deceptive trade practice;

(6) Report to the appropriate law enforcement officer any information concerning violations of any consumer protection law;

(7) Assist, advise, and cooperate with local and federal agencies and officials to protect and promote the interests of consumers in the State;

(8) Assist, develop, and conduct programs of consumer education and information through publications and other materials prepared for distribution to consumers;

(9) Undertake activities to encourage business and industry to maintain high standards of honesty, fair business practices, and public responsibility in the production, promotion, and sale or lease or rental of consumer goods, consumer realty, and consumer services and in the extension of consumer credit;

(10) Assess against any violator of this title the costs of investigation by the Division and damages which flow from the improper, incomplete or untimely restitution by the violator to the consumer of money, property, or other thing received from the consumer in connection with a violation of this title;