

Consumer Protection—

Recovers \$172,000

"The Consumer Protection Section recovered over \$172,000 for consumers last year," announced Attorney General Norman C. Gorsuch today.

The figure was taken from the Program's Annual Report for the 1974 Fiscal Year. This period covers July 1, 1973 through June 30, 1974.

The monetary recovery represents an increase of 200% over the previous fiscal year when \$56,451 were recovered for the Alaskan consumers by the program.

The number of contacts made by consumers to the program's three offices doubled during the same period from 2,700 in 1973 to 5,759 in 1974. A total of 1,198 formal complaints were filed with the office, and it was from these complaints that the recoveries were obtained.

"These figures represent a dramatic increase in activity during the past fiscal year," stated Gorsuch, "as well as an increasing awareness on the part of the consumer in Alaska that the Consumer Protection Section is there to help them with any difficulties that arise.

The Consumer Protection Section operates out of the office of the Attorney General to provide information on consumer topics and protection for the consumer from unfair trade practices.

Any person with a consumer-related problem can file a complaint with the office. In addi-

tion, consumers are urged to contact the office if they have any questions about the program or a consumer-related matter.

The program has three offices: in Anchorage, Juneau and Fairbanks. Any consumer that believes that he or she has been the victim of an unfair trade practice is encouraged to contact one of the offices: in Anchorage at 279-0428; in Juneau at 465-3692; and in Fairbanks at 452-1567.