



CONSUMER NEWS
Office of Consumer Affairs
For Immediate Release: March 16, 2012
Contact: Cynthia Sich, Director
330-643-2470 or 330-643-2879

Announcing Foreclosure Assistance Clinics

The County of Summit Office of Consumer Affairs and Veterans Service Commission invite the public to attend the *Foreclosure Assistance Clinics* being offered throughout the year to make sure that homeowners are receiving the right help when facing foreclosure or experiencing difficulties making mortgage payments.

The first clinic scheduled is **Thursday, March 22, 2012**, from **10:00 am to 3:00 pm** with representatives from **Chase, Citi, GMAC, HSBC, PNC and Wells Fargo** available to meet with their borrowers. All of the clinics are free, open to the public, and will be held at **Veterans Service Commission, 1060 East Waterloo Road, Akron, Ohio 44306**. For those homeowners whose mortgages are not with one of the participating servicers or lenders, local housing counseling agencies will be available to offer assistance and see if they qualify for Ohio's Restoring Stability program and its funding. In addition, residents can meet with a local credit counselor to discuss budgeting or debt management, or pick up pamphlets covering a wide variety of programs regarding veteran services, property taxes, weatherization, emergency notification, medical or legal help, consumer scams, and more.

Future clinics are scheduled for **April 26, August 30, September 20, and October 4**. To find out which servicers or lenders will be in attendance at each clinic, please contact the Office of Consumer Affairs at (330) 643-2879 or visit our website at <http://www.co.summit.oh.us/conaffairs.htm>.

Rally for Religious Freedom

On Friday, March 23rd at Noon, citizens across the country are being asked to gather outside federal buildings in cities throughout the United States to "rally" in defense of religious freedom and stand up against the Federal Health and Human Services mandate requiring Catholic institutions to pay for abortion-inducing drugs, sterilization, and contraception.

Through the efforts of Catholic Radio station WILB 1060 AM (Living Bread Radio), which covers much of the Diocese of Cleveland with its programming, **Bishop Richard Lennon** will celebrate **Mass at 10am** in **St. John Cathedral (East 9th and Superior Avenue) in downtown Cleveland**. The participants then will **proceed down East 9th Street to the "Free Stamp" park across from the Celebreeze Federal Office tower for a prayer rally**. **All are invited to attend.**

The Bishops of the United States have asked for the support of the Faithful in urging the Obama Administration to rescind the HHS mandate in the name of the First Amendment right of Freedom of Religion. Cardinal Timothy Dolan, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, has stated "Never before has the federal government forced individuals and organization to go into the marketplace and buy a product that violates their conscience."

Cleveland Bishop, Most Rev. Richard Lennon echoed Cardinal Dolan's remarks asking the community to **pray and fast that wisdom and justice will prevail and contact Congress in support of legislation that would reverse the Administration's decision.** For more information visit www.livingbreadradio.com.