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Centre Daily Times (State College, PA)

July 2, 1998 Page: 5A

ATTORNEY GENERAL PENALIZES MODELING AGENCY

STATE COLLEGE -- The state Attorney General's office is seeking more than \$5,000 in sanctions against Kelli Harman, owner of State College modeling agency Excel Model Management, as well as a court order prohibiting Harman from operating a modeling agency in Pennsylvania.

Attorney General Mike Fisher said Harman knowingly violated a signed settlement agreement with his office, according to a news release dated June 30. By CHRIS KREWSON

Centre Daily TimesHarman was ordered on March 13 to pay restitution to customers who responded to the agency's ads to model but didn't realize there was a fee required. Harman was also ordered to pay the attorney general's office more than \$2,000 for civil penalties and the cost of the investigation. The office also stipulated that future advertisements include that applicants must pay a fee to model.

Harman stopped payment on the penalty check 10 days after she settled the case, and continued running the unchanged ads in The Daily Collegian and The Altoona Mirror until April, said Deputy Attorney General Barry Creany, who filed the motion to seek sanctions.

She then started Millenia Model and Talent, Inc., a company that operated from the same building as Excel and advertised in the same way, Creany said -- another violation of the original settlement.

"Technically the new corporation is headed by Larry Harman, so now it's his corporation. But she is an employee and, from what we can gather, she's the director in day-to-day affairs," Creany said. "That's relevent in the case, because it's her personally involved in the acts."

Harman could not be reached for comment Wednesday afternoon.

The case will be heard in the Cambria County Court of Common Pleas, Creany said, and a hearing date will be set in the next 60 days.

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