Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O’Malley announced a groundbreaking partnership that will result in re-direction of qualified individuals who have engaged in criminal conduct from the criminal justice system and into the Behavioral or Mental Health support systems. The program, commonly referred to as the “3-D Program” will initially be a pilot program that will likely expand to all police agencies in Alameda County.

Under the guidelines of the program, when police contact a person suspected of committing a low level offense who is displaying mental health or substance use struggles, he or she will be offered the option of transportation to the Community Assessment, Referral and Engagement Services (CARES) Navigation Center rather than jail.

At the center, the individual will meet with a Peer Support Specialist and be assessed by a skilled clinician. The Peer Support Specialists are individuals with lived experience in the criminal justice system who have gone through an intensive training program that covers issues including effective support, mental health and substance abuse interventions as well as skill building to serve in a peer-to-peer support position. The Peer Support Specialists have been certified through a Peer Support Certification Training Program sponsored by the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office.

Read full press release here
centered on Best Buy’s price accuracy and return policy. The complaint alleges that Best Buy misrepresented the price of items sold and failed to accurately disclose material aspects of its return policy, among other violations.

“In these difficult economic times, it is even more critical that consumers are not overcharged by businesses like Best Buy,” states DA O’Malley. “My office will continue to protect consumers from price inaccuracy or other business practices that may result in consumer harm, no matter the size of the company.”

The judgment requires Best Buy to institute changes in its business practices to ensure that the problems identified in the complaint do not recur. These include a pricing accuracy program and enhanced disclosures of return policies. Best Buy cooperated in the investigation and, without admitting liability, agreed to pay $558,570.55 in civil costs and penalties and $75,000.00 in restitution. The civil penalties will be used for the enforcement of consumer protection laws.

If you believe you have been the victim of consumer fraud, please file a complaint with the DA’s office at this link: https://www.alcoda.org/cewpd/complaint_forms.
**QUICK LINKS**

- **Alameda County Courts Case Portal**: For information pertaining to specific cases.
- **Criminal Docket Finder**: Find out when the next court date is for a particular case.
- **Inmate Locator**: Find out the custody status of a person.
- **Alameda County DA's Office website**: View up-to-date news and information about the office at our website.
- **Alameda County Family Justice Center (ACFJC) website**: The ACFJC is a 1-stop location that provides victims of crime with legal, health, and support services, and the opportunity for physical and psychological safety, recovery and well-being.