

Consumer Corner

Suggestions offered on moving

Dear Attorney General Kline:
I have just secured a new job in Ohio that will require that my family and I move there in the next month or so.

In the past, we have relocated several times here in Kansas but are there any special circumstances we should be aware of since this will be our first move of such a great distance?

Dear Kansas Consumer:

First of all, best of luck with your new job. I hope things go well there for you and your family.

Your question is a good one. Millions of Americans and their belongings are moved safely and quickly across the country every year by competent and trustworthy moving companies, and finding a company you can entrust your belongings to is the most important part of any move.

There are several ways you can be sure you're dealing with a professional moving company.

Shop and compare

Get estimates from several companies and compare not just price, but services. The price you will pay to have your belongings moved might include a lot more than just trucking, so be sure to understand if there are extra costs that could be incurred and to what extent the estimate is guaranteed.

The best idea is to get an in-house estimate where moving company representatives actually come to your house. Remember that an estimate given over



Phill Kline

Attorney General

the phone or via an e-mail is not as accurate.

It's also important to be wary of any price that is well below the competitors, as many scammers will underbid by intentionally underestimating the weight of your goods and raise the price once they are loaded on the truck.

Check out the company

Make sure the company is established and reputable. If a moving company changes addresses as often as their customers, it could be an indication that they may be hard to find if you have problems.

Your local Better Business Bureau can tell you which moving companies locally have complaints, and some of your friends or neighbors may have moved recently.

Ask around to learn which companies have a habit of making customers happy, and which do not.

Another thing to keep in mind is that the "prime" moving season is coming up.

The middle of June to late in August is considered the busiest moving time. Make sure you obtain written guarantees on pick up and delivery dates.

Written agreement

Be sure to get everything in writing and don't sign any contract that

has blanks that will be filled in later. It's also a good idea to visit the company's business before signing a contract just to make sure the company owns its own trucks. Having your paperwork in order is the best protection you can have in case of a dispute or if it becomes necessary to seek a legal remedy against a company.

Finally, since you're moving out-of-state, realize that jurisdiction for this move falls exclusively under the federal government.

To file an interstate moving complaint, contact the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) toll free at 1-888-368-7238.

The Attorney General's Office can only investigate and address moves that take place within the state of Kansas.

Most people would never entrust thousands of dollars to people they've never met before, but that's really what they are doing when they entrust their belongings to a moving company they don't know.

Making sure the company is trustworthy before the truck is loaded is the best way to ensure that your move is as worry-free as possible.

Editor's note: For information or to file a complaint, please write Attorney General Phill Kline, Consumer Protection Division, 120 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, Kan., 66612, or call the toll-free 1-800-432-2310.

Student News

Brewster releases honor roll

Brewster School District released its fourth quarter and second semester honor roll recipients Wednesday. Students in grades 7th through 12th were recognized.

Honors with Distinction (4.0)
Twelfth grade students **Caitlan Rush** and **Karman Selby** both held a perfect grade point average of 4.0 throughout the second semester.

Phil Gralla, 11th grade student, held a 4.0 grade average in both the third and fourth quarters and 8th grader, **Braden McKee**, also held his perfect grade point average in the second semester.

Honor roll (3.5 - 3.99)

The following students achieved honor roll status for the second semester or fourth quarter only. They are:

12th grade — **Sarah Albers**, **Megan Fulwider**, **Branson Gilley**, **Garrett Smith**, **Jalyn Reid**, sec-

ond semester; and **Amy Carpenter**, fourth quarter only.

11th grade — **Sarah Flanders**, **Audrey Hoyt**, **Avery Schultz**, and **Tim Knox**, second semester.

10th grade — **Amanda Albers**, **Abbie Allen**, **Melissa Baird** and **Luke Goudy**, second semester.

9th grade — **Seth Carpenter**, **Brittany Kammer** and **Brittany Schuette**, second semester; and **Tyler O'Connor** and **Aleisha Bremenkamp**, fourth quarter only.

8th grade — **Seth Ackerman**, **Troy Albers**, **Ryan Allen**, **Rose Bear**, **Brittany Burkholder**, **Ashton Domsch**, **Nichelle Erskine**, and **Callie Jorgensen**, second semester; and **Kersten Trow**, fourth quarter only.

7th grade — **Garth Helton**, **Whitney Schultz**, and **Jayde Reid**, second semester.

Honor roll (3.0 -3.49)

The following students achieved honor roll status for the second se-

mester or fourth quarter only. They are:

12th grade — **Amy Carpenter**, **Jonathan Collett**, **Aaron Horinek**, **Kyle O'Connor**, and **Kasie Steenson**, second semester.

11th grade — **Megan Allen**, **Dani Bedore**, **Ryan Edmundson**, **Jennifer McMahan** and **Andrew Starns**, second semester.

10th grade — **Michael Collett**, **Jance McKee**, **Baylee Westover**, and **Chris Williams**, second semester.

9th grade — **Leann Burkholder**, **Melissa Crumrine**, **Chelsey Horney**, **Tyler O'Connor** and **Jeff Reid**, second semester.

8th grade — **Spencer Holm** and **Tad Sheets**, second semester.

7th grade — **Tate Preston**, **Faye Riggs** and **Wyatt Werth**, second semester.

For questions or for other information regarding honor roll, call (785) 694-2236.

Awards presented for weightlifting

From "STUDENTS," Page 3

Allan Bruggeman, Tate Bruggeman, Tanner Moss, Weightlifting. Maria Garcia, Health. Kelton Jones, Strength and Development.

Tim Beeck, Biology. Ivonn Vargas, General Science. Anisha Luna, General Science III.

April Anderson, Chemistry. Maria Garcia, Principles of Tech-

nology. Maranda Mosier, Spanish II. Katie Spreser and Tanner Moss, Woods, third hour. Mark Juene-mann and Jessica Shaw, Woods, fourth hour. Scott Johnston, Welding. Mark Juene-mann, drafting.

Brett Spreser, American History. Andrew Broeckelman, World History. Sean McCurdy, American Government. Anisha Luna, Kansas History.

Jessica Shaw, English IV. Brandy

Bussen, English III. Dan Rogers,

English II. Torry Roehl, English I.

Scott Johnston, Psychology. Brittany Ritter, General Business. Torry Roehl, Computer Tech.

I. Brandy Ginther, Accounting. Katie Spreser, Yearbook.

Middle School Top Scholars are Isaac Broeckelman and Jonathan Broeckelman, eighth grade; Lucas Phillips, seventh grade; Hannah Antholz, sixth grade.

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