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**DISTRICT ATTORNEY JEFFREY S. ROSELL ANNOUNCES CONSUMER PROTECTION  
AUTOMATIC-RENEWAL CASE**

District Attorney, Jeffrey Rosell announces that Home Chef, an online home-cooked meal delivery company, has agreed to change its websites and sales practices to protect California consumers as a result of an action brought by the Santa Cruz County District Attorney Consumer and Environmental Affairs Unit working in conjunction with the California Auto Renewal Taskforce (CART). The Chicago based company will pay \$450,000 in penalties pursuant to a judgment filed by the CART Taskforce in Los Angeles. The terms are part of a final court judgment negotiated with CART, a task force of prosecutors that includes the District Attorney Offices of Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Santa Barbara counties, and the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office.

Federal and state law requires businesses to provide consumers with clear disclosure of their automatic renewal terms and conditions before charging them for the service. The disclosure must include instruction for the cancelation of the automatic renewal subscription. The law requires businesses to obtain consent from customers prior to automatic renewal and provide confirmation of the transaction.

"We continue to be part of the joint effort to ensure that Consumers always have the right to know if they are going to be subject to ongoing charges." said District Attorney Jeffrey Rosell.

Online "subscriptions" and other automatically recurring charges have proliferated in the U.S. in recent years. Some renewals come after "free trials," in which consumers need to cancel in time to avoid the charges. Federal and state law requires businesses to make these automatic renewals clear to consumers, and to get their "express, affirmative consent" – before collecting any money. However, many businesses still do not follow this law. Home Chef is the latest in a series of consumer protection Judgments obtained by the Santa Cruz County District Attorney Consumer and Environmental Affairs Unit working in conjunction with CART and other statewide prosecutor task force efforts.