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PRESS RELEASE

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Attorney General Brown Announces Charges Against Owners of Maryland State Doulas, LLC

***Heather Delaney and Ryan Delaney Charged with Taking Payments from
Consumers and Not Providing Purchased Doula Services***

BALTIMORE, MD (March 13, 2024) – Maryland Attorney General Anthony G. Brown announced today that his Consumer Protection Division filed [charges](#) against Heather Kay Delaney and Ryan Delaney, formerly doing business as Maryland State Doulas, LLC, a Crofton-based company that sold doula services to consumers in Maryland and other states. Doula services generally include providing support to pregnant people, those in labor, and those who have recently given birth. Maryland State Doulas offered and sold these services to consumers but is no longer in business. The charges allege that the Delaneys and their company took upfront payments from consumers for doula services and failed to provide the promised services to parents counting on those services. The Delaneys are also charged with taking unauthorized payments from some consumers.

“People who take money for services they never deliver, especially from families seeking support during significant life events, lack integrity and are breaking the law,” **said Attorney General Brown.** “I am committed to bringing to justice to such people and those who exploit others for personal gain.”

The Attorney General’s lawsuit seeks restitution, as well as penalties, costs, and an injunction against the Delaneys for alleged violations of Maryland’s Consumer Protection Act. The case is scheduled for a hearing at the Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings beginning on June 11, 2024.

Consumers with complaints against the Delaneys or Maryland State Doulas, LLC may call the Consumer Protection Division at 410-528-8662, file a complaint online at www.MarylandAttorneyGeneral.gov, or write to the Consumer Protection Division at 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202.

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<https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/press/2024/031324.pdf>