

# Monthly Columns

by Attorney General Jack Conway



## February 2010

I continue to hear from concerned parents, community leaders and school officials from across Kentucky who support our inquiry into Topix.com. Last month, Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal and I sent a letter to Topix.com CEO Chris Tolles asking him to provide information about his policies dealing with abusive posts and a \$19.99 fee for “priority review” of inappropriate posts that appear to violate the website’s terms of service.

We have received dozens of complaints about outrageous, vulgar and abusive posts, many directed at children, that are rampant on the “Forums and Polls” pages of Topix.com. These types of abusive posts can have a devastating effect on teens. The fact that Topix is charging to remove these types of posts also raises serious consumer protection concerns.

I remain hopeful that Topix will address our concerns and the concerns of parents across Kentucky.

### **KY Kids Alert**

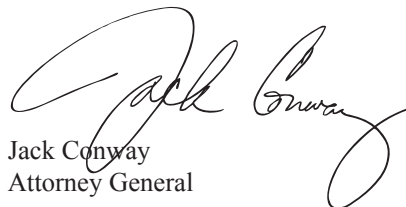
As the father of a seven-month-old little girl, I know there is nothing more important than the safety of our children. On February 25, I joined with the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services to launch a new statewide initiative to educate Kentucky parents and child care providers about the importance of receiving child product recall information.

As part of our KY Kids Alert initiative, we have signed up nearly 3,000 Kentucky child care centers and certified family child care homes to receive child product recall alerts from CPSC either by email or regular mail. This puts potentially lifesaving recall information on items such as toys, cribs and strollers directly into the hands of those who care for our children.

With the help of our state government partners,

including the Office of Inspector General, Department for Community Based Services and Department for Public Health — all divisions of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services — we will also distribute our KY Kids Alert literature to public health departments, child care resource and referral agencies and credentialed early care and education trainers. We are also encouraging Kentucky parents to sign up for these important recall alerts either through my website at [www.ag.ky.gov](http://www.ag.ky.gov) or [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).

Recalls of children’s products are only successful if the information reaches those who need it most. Be a part of our KY Kids Alert Team and sign up to receive child product recall alerts from the CPSC. They are free and could save a child’s life.



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