

# Price Gouging Charges

## **Kistruga, Inc.,** d/b/a Lukoil station at 253 McBride Ave., Paterson

This gas station is accused of raising the price of regular fuel from \$3.45 to \$5.50 per gallon, **an increase of 59 percent**, during the state of emergency. On November 1 the business allegedly made approximately 230 sales of regular gasoline to consumers. The Division of Consumer Affairs received approximately 27 consumer complaints about this company.

**59%**

## **C.S. George & Sons, Inc.,**

d/b/a George's Service Center at 387 Crooks Ave., Clifton

This gas station is accused of raising the price of regular gas from \$3.49 per gallon to \$4.69 per gallon, **an increase of 34 percent**, during the state of emergency. The Division of Consumer Affairs received approximately 52 consumer complaints about this company.

**34%**

## **Alen Service Corp.,** d/b/a Lukoil station at 335 McCarter Highway, Newark

This gas station is accused of raising the price of regular gas from \$3.60 per gallon to \$4.50 per gallon, **an increase of 25 percent**, during the state of emergency. The business also allegedly **raised the price of premium-grade gasoline by 25 percent, raised the price of plus-grade gasoline by 26 percent**, and **raised the price of diesel fuel by 31 percent**, to \$5.45 per gallon.

The Division of Consumer Affairs received approximately 21 consumer complaints about this company.

**31%**

## **Vinny Fuel Corporation,**

d/b/a Delta Gas station at 141 Bloomfield Ave., Bloomfield

This gas station is accused of raising the price of regular gas from \$3.19 per gallon to \$3.99 per gallon, **an increase of 25 percent**, during the state of emergency. The Division of Consumer Affairs received approximately six consumer complaints about this company.

**25%**

## **Perth Amboy NJPO, LLC,** d/b/a BP station at 163 Fayette St., Perth Amboy

This gas station is accused by consumers of **raising the price of regular fuel between 22 percent and 33 percent** during the state of emergency. It also allegedly **raised the price of premium-grade gasoline by 12 percent**, and the price of **plus-grade gasoline by 13 percent**, from October 31 to November 1. The business has allegedly refused to provide receipts, records, and other documents that the Division of Consumer Affairs demanded by subpoena. The Division of Consumer Affairs received approximately 19 consumer complaints about this company.

**33%**

## **S&D LLC,** d/b/a Exxon station at 555 Riverside Ave., Lyndhurst

This gas station is accused of raising the price of regular fuel from \$3.42 per gallon to \$4.13 per gallon, **an increase of 21 percent**, during the state of emergency. It also allegedly **raised the price of supreme-grade gasoline by 14 percent**. The Division of Consumer Affairs received approximately 13 consumer complaints about this company.

**21%**

## **Couto & Sons, Inc.** d/b/a Sunoco station at 69 Wilson Ave., Newark

This gas station is accused of raising the price of regular fuel from \$3.80 per gallon to \$4.46 per gallon, **an increase of 17 percent**, during the state of emergency. It also allegedly **raised the price of plus-grade, premium-grade, and ultra-grade fuel by 11 percent**.

The gas station is also accused of increasing the prices for all four grades of fuel more than once per 24 hour period, in violation of the Motor Fuels Act. The State's complaint further notes that this gas station paid less per gallon for a shipment of fuel on November 1 than it paid for its most recent shipment prior to the state of emergency – indicating a decrease in the company's costs, rather than an increase, after the storm. The Division of Consumer Affairs received approximately 24 consumer complaints about this company.

**17%**

## **Ratan Hospitality Group, LLC,**

d/b/a Howard Johnson Express at 625 Rte. 46 East, Parsippany

This hotel is accused of **raising its room prices by up to 32 percent** – to \$119 per night, compared with the hotel's highest room rate of \$90 immediately prior to the state of emergency.

**32%**