



Shown (from left) are Warren County Prosecutor and Big Brothers and Sisters Board member Rachel Hutzel, Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro, Joanna West, executive director of Big Brothers and Sisters of Warren and Clinton Counties and BBBS President Angela Mitchell.

Ohio Attorney General awards \$20,000 to Big Brothers and Sisters

LEBANON - Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro has awarded Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Warren and Clinton Counties \$20,000 from the state's share of a recent \$8.2 million nationwide antitrust settlement involving the company Salton Inc., which makes the George Foreman Grill.

The settlement stems from a multi-state investigation into Salton's alleged anti-competitive business practices. Salton, a Delaware corporation headquartered in Mount Prospect, Ill., manufactures and markets household products such as espresso makers, bread machines, juicers, personal care appliances, tableware, clocks and grilling machines.

The anti-competitive practices involved the sale of Salton's most popular product, the George Foreman Grill. One of the alleged practices that came under investigation was Salton's order acceptance policy, in which the company "suggested" to retailers that they sell its two mid-sized grills at minimum prices of \$59.99 and \$99.99.

The distributors who declined to do so were suspended for a brief period in order to pressure them into an agreement to follow Salton's

policy. Salton also was alleged to have refused to sell to stores that sold grills made by its closest competitor, Hamilton Beach.

Big Brothers and Sisters of Warren and Clinton Counties develops and nurtures quality relationships between children and adult and high school volunteers. The funding will be use to enhance a program in which volunteers teach children about preparing nutritious meals and maintaining an exercise program.

The rest of the settlement money will be split among other state agencies, including Big Brothers and Sisters chapters in Lorain and Central Ohio