



RICHARD O'SULLIVAN Commissioner of Consumer Affairs

CONSUMER AFFAIRS REVOKES MOTOR DEALER LICENCES

The Commissioner of Consumer Affairs Mr Richard O'Sullivan today revoked two Territory Motor Vehicle Dealers licences for breaches of the *Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Act*.

Mr O'Sullivan said the actions of one of the traders has resulted in at least 6 Territory consumers being ripped off by almost \$30,000.

“The licence of Paul Reid’s World of Wheels was revoked for breaches of the *Act*, namely consumer complaints about the failure of Reid to pay on the sale of consignment vehicles.

Other breaches included the principle licensed dealer is no longer living in Australia, the lack of financial and material resources to carry on the business of a licensed dealer; and the result of a large number of consumer complaints and on-going consumer detriment.”

“The trading licence of another motor trader, Independent Car Dealers Pty Ltd trading as Affordable Car Rentals, was also revoked because Company Director Mr Robert (Bobbie) Harris operated the business from unlicensed premises; and failed to comply with a number of licensing requirements under the *Act*.”

“The action taken on these two traders is significant and is the **first time** since the introduction of the *Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Act* that Motor Vehicle Dealer’s licences have been revoked.

“Consumer Affairs is toughening its stance to protect consumers’ interests in the area of motor vehicle sales and this includes sales of vehicles by unlicensed individuals, most prevalent in remote areas.

“Revoking the licences sends a strong signal to the industry and also a warning message to consumers to be aware of their rights, and make sure consignment arrangements are above board.

The Commissioner for Consumer Affairs is assisting aggrieved consumers of Paul Reid’s World of Wheels. Consumer Affairs urges anyone with a claim against Mr Reid to contact them on 89 991999.

“This action should remind traders of their responsibilities and conditions of their licence under the *Act*.

It sends a clear message to anyone caught breaching the *Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Act* that there will be no hesitation in applying the full weight of the law, especially where consumer’s interests are compromised” he said.