



# NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASE

30 May 2003

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## **DR PETER TOYNE MLA** Minister for Justice and Attorney-General

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### **CONSUMER WARNING ON TLC**

Territorians are being warned to be wary of an introduction agency operating in the NT that was banned this week by the Queensland Government for fair trading breaches in that State.

Justice Minister Dr Peter Toyne, said TLC Consulting Services Pty Ltd, which has recently advertised their services in various Territory publications, was found guilty of breaches of the Introduction Agents Act in QLD.

The QLD Office of Fair Trading took Supreme Court action against TLC which resulted in:

- An order to pay \$433,611 in compensation and interest to 54 clients listed in the action; and
- For TLC to pay the \$130,000 court costs of the Office of Fair Trading.

Dr Toyne said TLC was now permanently banned from operating in QLD - and Territorians considering using the service should be wary.

“I encourage any Territorian who has had dealings with TLC and are less than satisfied with the service provided to contact Consumer Affairs immediately,” he said.

“The Territory’s Office of Consumer Affairs will be closely monitoring the activities of TLC here in the Territory and will follow up any consumer complaints.

“Consumer Affairs will be placing advertisements to warn potential customers of the company’s previous record and to be extremely careful when providing any details to TLC through its advertised 1300 number,” Dr Toyne said.

The company advertised in the May 17 edition of the NT News offering match-making services.

The Office of Consumer Affairs can be contacted seven day a week on toll free number 1800 019319.