



RICHARD O'SULLIVAN Commissioner of Consumer Affairs

WARRANTS FOR ARREST OF TWO MEN

Consumer Affairs Commissioner Richard O'Sullivan has welcomed the Darwin Magistrates' Court decision to issue warrants for the arrest of two men charged with Unlicensed Dealing in the Northern Territory.

Robert Alan James Harris and Francis Xavier Falzon both failed to appear at Darwin Magistrates Court to answer the charges which relate to used vehicle sales predominantly in the Darwin region.

The alleged offences are separate with Harris' charges spanning the period November 2001 to August 2002 and Falzon's from November 2001 to May 2002.

The Commissioner said Harris placed a series of advertisements in the classified section of Northern Territory newspapers advertising vehicles for sale. It is illegal to sell more than three vehicles within a 12-month period without a licensed motor vehicle dealership licence.

Falzon operated under a similar guise as Harris offering vehicles for sale through classified advertising and a wider network.

The maximum charge for unlicensed dealing under the Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Act is \$55,000.

"Unlicensed dealing impacts on both legitimate motor vehicle dealers and the buying public," the Commissioner said.

"I welcome the issue of these warrants and appreciate the support of various agencies and the public to bring this matter to a close."

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