

# Media Release



Government of South Australia

Office of Consumer and  
Business Affairs

Contact: **Immacolata Bollella**  
Phone: 8204 9512

**Education and  
Information Services**

Level 1  
Chesser House  
91-97 Grenfell Street  
Adelaide SA 5000

GPO Box 1719  
Adelaide SA 5001  
DX 225

Tel 08 8204 9516  
Fax 08 8204 9509

[www.ocba.sa.gov.au](http://www.ocba.sa.gov.au)

21 February 2006

## Crook Speedo, or Speedo Crook?

Today the Magistrates Court fined Damir Brajlovic \$3000, for winding back the odometer of a motor vehicle. The Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) had previously prosecuted him on 9 other charges of interfering with odometers.

Brajlovic purchased a Hyundai Excel on 5 May 2003 for \$5,230. At the time of the purchase the odometer reading was about 120,000 kilometres. The next day Brajlovic traded the Hyundai on another vehicle and received a trade in allowance of \$7,990. At the time Brajlovic traded the Hyundai its odometer was displaying about 76,000 kilometres, a difference of 44,000 kilometres.

Commissioner for Consumer Affairs, Mark Bodycoat said that the penalty handed out to Brajlovic reflected his total disregard for the second-hand motor vehicle industry and consumer protection legislation.

“Brajlovic represents a serious threat to consumers and is a good example of the risks of doing business with unlicensed operators. He has no regard for his legal obligations and has repeatedly placed consumers at risk.”

A Hyundai dealer identified the odometer wind back when the car was later presented for a service. The changes were obvious after the dealership reviewed the service history and odometer readings.

OCBA successfully prosecuted Brajlovic in July 2002 for carrying on business as a second-hand vehicle dealer without a licence and changing the readings on the odometers of 9 different cars. He was also fined \$17 500, a record for the time. OCBA subsequently took disciplinary action and had him disqualified from being a second-hand vehicle dealer and prohibited from being engaged in the business of a dealer.

“People need to understand that interfering with odometers like this is just plain dishonesty. The penalty in the Second-hand Vehicle Dealers Act reflects that.”

Interference with odometers is an offence under the Second-hand Vehicle Dealers Act and carries a maximum penalty of \$5 000.

Consumers are encouraged to report suspected odometer interference to OCBA on 8204 9777 or 131 882 for country dealers.