

Media Release



Government of South Australia

Office of Consumer and
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Driving Instructor Pays High Price

A driving instructor who misled learner drivers was today convicted in the Adelaide Magistrates Court. Colin Michael Lock of Ingle Farm, trading as “Colin Lock School of Motoring”, led consumers to believe that he was able to conduct logbook driver training and testing when he was not authorised to do so.

Lock was fined \$8500 plus levies and court costs.

The Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) had taken ongoing action against Lock following his failure to heed previous OCBA warnings.

Today’s conviction comes after an injunction obtained by OCBA on 21 October 2005, directing Lock to immediately notify any new and existing clients that he is unauthorised to administer logbook driver training and testing.

Commissioner for Consumer Affairs, Mark Bodycoat said, “Lock’s failure to comply with fair trading and business names legislation is disappointing, but what is really galling is his complete disregard for his customers.”

During its investigations OCBA discovered the business name “Colin Lock School of Motoring” was not registered under the *Business Names Act 1996*, and Lock had not been authorised to conduct logbook driver training and testing since February 2003, when his authorisation was revoked by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles.

Consumers employing the services of Lock have been left “high and dry” and out-of-pocket. Many have had to employ new instructors and start again, incurring additional expenses.

Consumers can contact OCBA on 8204 9777 (131 882 for country callers) or visit www.ocba.sa.gov.au for information about a range of consumer issues.