

# News Release

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**Hon Gail Gago**  
Minister for State/Local Government  
Relations  
Minister for the Status of Women  
Minister for Consumer Affairs  
Minister Government Enterprises  
Minister Ast Minister for Transport, Infrastructure & Energy

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## **BAN FOR USED MOTORBIKE DEALER TAKING CONSUMERS FOR A RIDE**

A bankrupt motorbike dealer who failed to pass on the proceeds of consignment sales has been disqualified from operating as a second-hand motor vehicle dealer in the District Court today.

Brenton Evan Hounslow of Hawthorndene and his company, Docteur Desmo Australia Pty Ltd, took possession of nine second-hand motorcycles from consumers to sell on consignment. He failed to pass on the proceeds from the sales, even attempting to pay some with cheques that bounced.

The affected consumers were forced to seek assistance from the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) sharing almost \$110,000 from the Second-hand Vehicle Dealers Compensation Fund.

Hounslow was subsequently declared bankrupt in 2007 and his company placed in liquidation.

Earlier this year he was sentenced to a 10 month suspended jail term on condition he be of good behaviour for three years following conviction of six dishonesty offences.

OCBA's subsequent disciplinary action has now seen him disqualified from being licensed under the *Second-hand Vehicle Dealers Act 1995*, from being employed or otherwise engaged in the business of a dealer and from being a director or having an interest in a second-hand vehicle dealership, until further court order.

In disciplining Hounslow, Judge McIntyre took note of the seriousness of his conduct, remarking that Hounslow's behaviour was a "flagrant breach of the Act" and "a repeated and sustained course of conduct involving a number of consumers".

Minister for Consumer Affairs Gail Gago says Hounslow's offending was deliberate and unacceptable. "Both Hounslow and the company he directed showed complete disregard for the trusting consumers who they were supposed to be providing a service for," says Minister Gago.

"OCBA will continue to prosecute and discipline dishonest second-hand vehicle traders who bring the industry into disrepute."

Consumers are encouraged to report unlawful activity by second-hand vehicle dealers to call the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) on 8204 9777 or 131 882 for country callers, or visit the website at [www.ocba.sa.gov.au](http://www.ocba.sa.gov.au).