

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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BEWARE THE WHITE VAN SPEAKER SCAMMERS

South Australians should beware the return of dodgy audio speaker salesmen that have foolishly returned to SA still driving a white van that the scammers have become renowned for.

Minister for Consumer Affairs Gail Gago says the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) has again received reports of two men driving around Adelaide selling loudspeakers out of the back of a white 2008 Toyota HiAce van with a Queensland registration plate.

Yesterday they approached a man in North Adelaide seeking \$1,000 for speakers they claimed to be worth \$3,000.

An hour later a man approached in the Bunnings carpark at Parafield Gardens handed over \$200 for the substandard speakers that he later reported to be chinese made 'knock-offs' worth a fraction of the price.

"South Australians should not buy these speakers from the two 'white van' salesmen," says Minister Gago.

"They wrongfully lead people to believe the speakers are a well-respected brand and of high quality.

"These shonks approach people in car parks, in vehicles at traffic lights and even at bus stops to persuade them they're getting a bargain. Inevitably all that any takers get is burned.

"People should remember if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

"These guys continue to try their luck and I urge South Australians to help put an end to their efforts by reporting their whereabouts and any approaches to OCBA on 8204 9777 (131 882 regional calls).

"Inevitably the complaints we receive always seem to have a consistent story about oversupply of speakers for a job and the sales of remaining stock at a substantial discount. They may even produce a bogus delivery document to try and influence a potential buyer," said the Minister.

Under the Fair Trading Act, people who travel from place to place, carrying on business selling goods or services over \$50 are required to comply with the door-to-door sales provisions, which provides a ten-day cooling off period, the deal is to be set out in a contract, and no payment is to be requested by the trader before the expiration of the cooling-off period.

"Clearly that's not happening," Ms Gago said.