

MEDIA RELEASE

2 December 2013

NEW 'LINE' OF WORK FOR TRAVELLING CONMEN

Consumer Affairs Gary Clements is warning consumers not to deal with travelling conmen who are working through the Northern Territory offering cheap on-the-spot line-marking for car parks.

Mr Clements said Consumer Affairs had received reports from business owners in Alice Springs and Coolalinga who have engaged the conmen to complete line marking work in their car parks.

"The work was very unprofessional with untidy markings, crooked and incomplete lines and fading paint after only several days," he said.

"In some cases, the group of four young men with Irish accents is issuing a business card which names them as McInerney Lining and in another case an invoice was issued by a Patrick O'Brien.

"However, the business information is generally bogus."

Mr Clements said the conmen are believed to be travelling in a white van with the words "Brains Autos" painted on the side. The white van has Queensland registration number 683MWS.

"They are cold calling businesses using the usual spiel of having left over paint and demand to be paid in cash," he said.

"These scammers specialise in ripping people off - they will take your money and run."

Mr Clements said anyone with any information about the group, or their whereabouts, should report them to Consumer Affairs on 1800 019 319 or email consumer@nt.gov.au.

You can stay on top of current events and scams affecting consumers by visiting our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/NorthernTerritoryConsumerAffairs>.