

MEDIA RELEASE

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TRAVELLING CONMEN OPERATING IN DARWIN

The NT Consumer Affairs Commissioner, Gary Clements, is warning people to be on the lookout for travelling conmen reportedly selling goods from a white van in the Palmerston and surrounding areas.

“The current culprits are selling audio-visual equipment and operating from a white Toyota Hi-Ace Van, registration number CA 50 EI,” Mr Clements said.

“These dodgy traders are known for using high pressure sales techniques to sell supposedly discounted electronics goods in public car parks from the back of a van or truck. They may also make misleading claims about the availability, quality and reasons for sale to make their pitch seem plausible.”

Mr Clements warns consumers to avoid doing any business with these shady salesmen.

“Experience has shown that consumers run the risk of being ripped off by these traders who sell sub-standard products at inflated prices and provide no recourse for consumers seeking to make warranty claims.

“They may also be breaking the Australian Consumer Law by failing to properly comply with unsolicited sales laws that require consumers to be allowed a 10 day cooling off period for any uninvited sales over \$100,” he said.

Consumers who are approached by travelling van salesmen are advised to resist deals that appear “too good to be true” and to report them to the travelling conmen national hotline on 1300 133 408. Where possible, obtaining information such as vehicle registration numbers and business details are very helpful.

For more information about Northern Territory Consumer Affairs go to the Consumer Affairs website www.consumeraffairs.nt.gov.au or contact Consumer Affairs on 1800 019 319.