

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### TRAVELLING CONMEN OPERATING IN DARWIN

The NT Consumer Affairs Commissioner, Gary Clements is warning Territorians to be on the lookout for travelling conmen reportedly selling 'Commercial' brand home theatre systems from a black 2014 Nissan Pathfinder SUV, Queensland registration number 352 VGB.

Mr Clements has reason to believe that one of the two travelling conmen is Deniz Salman pictured below. The traders were spotted in the Jape Homemaker Village car park and in the car park of Bunnings on Bagot Road, but may be active all over Darwin and surrounding areas.

These conmen are known for using high pressure sales techniques to sell supposedly discounted electronics goods in public car parks from the back of a vehicle. Previously they used vans or trucks, but now they seem to sell from four wheel drives and SUVs. They may also make misleading claims about the availability, quality and reasons for sale as well as the origin of the goods to make their pitch seem plausible.

A recent Darwin victim was shown by the traders a website displaying the purported recommended retail prices. Upon closer inspection of the dubious website it appears that the product details displayed are different to those of the products actually sold. The website also lacks any contact details for the company or authorised dealers nor any warranty information.

Mr Clements warns consumers to avoid doing any business with these conmen, especially from the back of a van, car or SUV. Experience has shown that consumers will be ripped off by these traders who sell sub-standard products at inflated prices and provide no recourse for consumers.

"They are breaking the Australian Consumer Law by failing to properly comply with unsolicited sales laws which require consumers to be allowed a 10 day cooling off period for any uninvited sales over \$100" he said. Breaches of The Australian Consumer Law attract penalties up to \$1.1 million for corporations and \$220 000 for individuals.

Consumers who are approached by travelling conmen are advised to resist deals that appear "too good to be true" and to report them to Consumer Affairs. Where possible, obtaining information such as vehicle registration numbers and business details as well as the identity of the sellers is very helpful.

For more information about Northern Territory Consumer Affairs go to the Consumer Affairs website [www.consumeraffairs.nt.gov.au](http://www.consumeraffairs.nt.gov.au) or contact Consumer Affairs on 1800 019 319.



Goods for sale



2014 Nissan Pathfinder



Deniz Salman