Department of Commerce

Compliance summary 2013

# 2013 Compliance summary

## December

Steven and Nava MEYER, private landlords who broke tenancy law by making their tenant pay too much bond money, not giving a receipt and not lodging the money with the Bond Administrator, were ordered to pay $3,000 in fines and costs. They pleaded guilty to three offences under the Residential Tenancies Act during a hearing at in the Perth Magistrates Court on 2 December 2013. They were fined $1,000 and must pay costs of $2,000.

Mashari Abdulh AL SHAMARI, a backyard car dealer of Mirrabooka was fined $6,500 and ordered to pay costs of $1,500 by the Joondalup Magistrates Court for buying and selling vehicles without a licence. Mr Al Shamari pleaded guilty on 4 December 2013 to charges of buying and selling vehicles between January 2011 and August 2012 without a licence, in breach of the Motor Vehicle Dealers Act. During this period, Mr Al Shamari placed numerous advertisements in the Quokka newspaper offering the vehicles for sale.

November

Sean Robert WEINTHAL, a tree lopper from Wanneroo, was the subject of a Consumer Protection public warning about bullying and threatening WA consumers. He was charged with harassment. Mr Weinthal, who is an employee of WEST AUSTRALIAN TREE SERVICES, MANAGEABLE TREE SERVICES, WA TREE PROFESSIONALS and also formerly known as METROPOLITAN TREE SERVICES (deregistered), is facing further legal action after being the subject of a large number of complaints from consumers. The complaints are varied and relate to unauthorised work, quality issues, price and damage. Of great concern are the complaints which report disputes over payment escalating into threatening and harassing behaviour.

John Lewis DONOHOE, a private landlord from Geraldton, was fined a total of $2,500 by the Geraldton Magistrates Court for failing to deposit two of his tenants’ security bonds and failing to lodge the bond of a third tenant with the Bond Administrator within 14 days of receipt. Mr Donohoe, a former real estate agent, had received a $2,100 bond from a tenant in January 2011 and a $2,000 bond from another tenant in May 2012 but failed to deposit the money into a trust account in the name of the owner and tenant, or with the Bond Administrator, as required by the Residential Tenancies Act at the time. He was fined $1,000 for each of these two offences. In June 2012, Mr Donohoe collected $2,200 in bond money from a third tenant but took 42 days to lodge it with the Bond Administrator, which was outside the time allowed for bond lodgement under the Act at the time. He was fined $500 for this offence, and was also ordered to pay $486 in costs.

Faizan AFZAL, a backyard car dealer from Bentley was fined $9,000 and ordered to pay costs of $561 by the Perth Magistrates Court for buying and selling vehicles without a licence. Mr Afzal pleaded guilty on 22 November 2013 to charges of buying and selling 27 vehicles between February 2011 and March 2012 without a licence, in breach of the Motor Vehicle Dealers Act. During this period, Mr Afzal placed 191 advertisements on the Gumtree website offering the vehicles for sale.

WENTWORTH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT Pty Ltd, trading as CENTURY 21 WENTWORTH REAL ESTATE of East Perth, was fined $10,400 for taking too long to lodge security bonds with the Bond Administrator. The agency was also ordered to pay costs of $643 by the Perth Magistrates Court on 8 November 2013. Lawyers for Consumer Protection told the Court that the company had taken between 17 and 53 days to lodge 26 bonds totalling $39,200. The bonds were collected during March and April 2012 and the agency was charged after previously being warned for late bond lodgements. The agency faced 26 charges of failing to lodge security bond money with the Bond Administrator ‘as soon as practicable’, as was required under the Residential Tenancies Act at the time. On 1 July 2013 the Act was changed, requiring agents to lodge bonds ‘as soon as practicable and, in any event, within 14 days of receipt’.

Liang Chao LU, a Perth newsagency owner, was fined $1,000 for selling a sky lantern, in the first conviction of its kind in WA under the Australian Consumer Law. Sky lanterns have been banned from sale across Australia since 2011 due to the fire risk they pose, especially in areas with bush land. In October 2012 a product safety officer from Consumer Protection found one of the sky lanterns on sale at Wing Loong News and Book store in William Street. Sole proprietor Liang Chao Lu today pleaded guilty at the Perth Magistrates Court to breaching the Australian Consumer Law, by selling a permanently banned good. As well as a $1,000 fine, she must pay $646.88 in costs.

FRANJAPARA Pty Ltd, trading as AUTOMOTIVE, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL – a motor vehicle repair company in Canning Vale and its Director Anthony PARASILITI have been fined a total of $33,000 by the Armadale Magistrates Court for posting fake online testimonials. The company was fined $25,000 and Parasiliti was fined $8,000 after pleading guilty to making false or misleading representations in breach of the Australian Consumer Law. They were also ordered to pay Court costs of $592. The conviction follows an investigation by Consumer Protection which found in January this year that four testimonials on the company’s website were entirely fictitious and concocted by the company’s web designers.

## October

Consumer Protection issued an alert about eight bogus shopping websites, now closed, which had stolen the identity of legitimate businesses and conned money out of WA consumers. An investigation was launched by Consumer Protection through WA ScamNet when seven consumers complained that they had not received electronic goods they had ordered online, leaving them more than $7,000 out of pocket. The consumers had purchased iPads, iPhones and a camera at well below market prices and the websites only accepted payment by bank to bank transfer. The eight websites were set up using the names of legitimate businesses which are either still operating or recently closed down. When contacted by WA ScamNet, the business owners confirmed that their trading names had been “stolen” and they had not registered the domain names being used in the scam.

The sites now closed are:

• thefoneshop.com.au

• affordableappliances.com.au

• directcamerawarehouse.com.au

• hdcameras.com.au

• xtremegopro.com.au

• totaltelevisions.com.au

• thelaptopfactory.com.au

• futuregaming.com.au

September

Consumer Protection discontinued legal action against fencing contractor UNITED FENCING (WA) Pty Ltd, a registered company of sole director James Lee BATTAH of Harvey, due to him having been declared bankrupt. Mr Battah was the subject of legal action by the Department after consumers in the Bunbury and Mandurah areas reported paying large deposits for fencing work that was never carried out. In March 2013 Consumer Protection negotiated with the company and Mr Battah to sign a Court enforceable undertaking under the Australian Consumer Law which placed strict conditions on the company’s present and future dealings with customers. The undertaking also required the company to refund $43,000 in deposits owed to 24 consumers within a specified period. Consumer Protection commenced legal action against the company and Mr Battah when these amounts were not paid by the due date. On 27 May 2013 Mr Battah was declared bankrupt and, as a result, further legal action was discontinued as there was unlikely to be any positive outcome.

Richard “Rick” Keith OTTON, a Sydney-based property investment promoter together with and his companies RICK OTTON.COM Pty Ltd and WE BUY HOUSES Pty Ltd voluntarily agreed to forego promoting his rent-to-buy scheme to WA consumers, to clarify what Consumer Protection believed to be misleading advertising and to clarify statements made on various websites. Mr Rick OTTON entered into an enforceable undertaking with Consumer Protection in which he undertook to refrain from conducting his seminars in WA. He also undertook to refrain from distributing promotional material and promoting his real estate business in WA for a two year period as well as publish information on his websites about how the promoted arrangements operate. The scheme that Mr Otton teaches involves offering a property seller one dollar for an option to buy their property in the future at a fixed price while offering to pay rent in the meantime. While the seller remains the owner of the property, a prospective buyer then purchases the option on the condition that they pay regular instalments greater than the rent in the expectation that they can secure finance to exercise the option and buy the property outright.

IGEA LIFE SCIENCES Pty Ltd, a company which promotes the weight loss product BODYTRIM agreed to clarify claims made in its advertising which Consumer Protection believes may have misled WA consumers and to offer a refund to those customers in WA who believe they have been misled. The promoter and supplier signed a Court enforceable undertaking with Consumer Protection agreeing to place a corrective advertisement to clarify claims about their product. Consumer Protection is concerned that claims in some of Bodytrim’s advertisements had the potential to mislead consumers in WA. Consumer Protection considers the advertisements implied that the product: does not require a person to diet, when in fact controlling calorie intake and food selection was part of the program; provides permanent and/or sustained weight loss; involves scientific processes such as ‘re-setting fat hormones’, when there is no conclusive body of scientific opinion which concludes that weight loss is possible unless energy output exceeds energy input. The supplier of Bodytrim agreed to place a full page advertisement in The Weekend West, which outlined Consumer Protection’s concerns about the claims being made. The company has also agreed to contact customers in WA who purchased their product between 1 February 2011 and 30 April 2012 and offer a refund, including any delivery costs, to those who establish that they have been misled by the advertising.

Steven Paul FENN of Lockridge was fined $1,500 in the Midland Magistrates Court for buying and selling motor vehicles without a licence. Mr Fenn was convicted on 29 August 2013 of buying 17 commercial vans and selling 13 of them between August 2011 and March 2013 without a licence, in breach of the Motor Vehicle Dealers Act. He was ordered to pay Court costs of $1,112.

## August

The Court of Appeal dismissed a second appeal by the Director of Westpoint Realty Pty Ltd (in liquidation), Mr Norman Phillip CAREY, against five convictions for making false or misleading representations. Mr Carey was convicted in his personal capacity because he was a Director of Westpoint Corporation, and failed to persuade the Magistrate that he could not have prevented the offences by reasonable diligence. Mr Carey was found guilty by the Perth Magistrates Court on 11 February 2011 of five charges of breaching the Fair Trading Act in relation to the sale of a residential property development in Rivervale in 2005. The Supreme Court dismissed Mr Carey’s first appeal on 10 January 2012, and the Court of Appeal has now dismissed a further appeal from the Supreme Court. The original trial found that the company, via its agents, misled purchasers of units in the Regent Apartments development by falsely informing them that there had been indefinite delays to the project due to planning approvals. The agents caused purchasers to terminate their contracts of sale, then each of the units were re-sold at a higher price within a short period of time. The Court of Appeal ruled that the Magistrate was correct in his decision and upheld the conviction.

STONEFORM ENTERPRISES Pty Ltd, a Wilson real estate agency trading as MINIC PROPERTY GROUP, the agency licensee Sabrina Lynn MINIC and a sales representative Michael Lee MINIC were fined a total of $11,500 for misleading a buyer during a property transaction. Stoneform Enterprises Pty Ltd, trading as Minic Property Group, was fined $5,000 by the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) on 14 August 2013. Agency licensee Sabrina Lynn Minic was also fined $5,000 and sales representative Michael Lee Minic was fined $1,500. The agency was ordered to pay costs of $2,000. The final orders by the SAT followed a negotiated settlement of the case. The real estate agency, the agency licensee and sales representative were alleged by Consumer Protection to have breached the Code of Conduct for Agents and Sales Representatives by making a false or misleading representation to the buyer in relation to a bore at a High Wycombe property in 2010. They also failed to familiarise themselves with the Seller’s Disclosure Statement.

CAVALIER ASSET Pty Ltd, trading as ROCKINGHAM WINDSOR and STATEWIDE CARS AND COMMERCIALS, of Rockingham and its sole director Daniel Lance GRANT were ordered to pay more than $40,000 in fines and costs after misleading a client over the sale of a caravan on consignment. Cavalier Asset Pty Ltd was fined $20,000 by the Rockingham Magistrates Court on 15 August 2013 for breaching the Australian Consumer Law (ACL) and $7,000 for breaching the Motor Vehicle Dealers Act. The company was also ordered to pay Court costs of $8,253. Mr Grant was fined $4,000 for breaching the ACL and $1,200 for breaching the Motor Vehicle Dealers Act.

Clinton Bradley OREB of Balga was fined $2,500 and ordered to pay costs of $925 by the Perth Magistrates Court for unlicensed car dealing. Mr Oreb was charged by Consumer Protection for buying and selling 17 vehicles between June 2011 and March 2012 without having a licence. He was convicted on 9 August 2013 after being found to be in breach of the Motor Vehicle Dealers Act. Mr Oreb advertised the vehicles in the Quokka newspaper and operated his illegal car dealing business from home.

ORANGESHILL a fake website – www.orangeshill.net.au – now closed, was used in an attempt to scam overseas backpackers looking for work as fruit pickers in WA’s South West. Consumer Protection and WA Police have received reports from concerned consumers that the website offered jobs and accommodation and requested deposits be sent to a prepaid credit card account. It was confirmed that the farm in Manjimup referred to on the website did not exist.

## July

MILLER’S MOVES, a national furniture removal company which operates in WA agreed to change the terms of its standard contract with customers following action by Consumer Protection. R.F. & M.D. MILLER’S MOVES Pty Ltd, based in Mornington Victoria, entered into an enforceable undertaking under the Australian Consumer Law (ACL) to remove a clause in their standard contract. The contract purported to prevent customers who didn’t pay extra for insurance from making a claim for any losses or damage caused to their possessions during transit. The action was undertaken by Consumer Protection after the company refused to pay a WA consumer’s damage claim of $7,565, referring to a clause in the contract which stated that the company was not liable for any loss or damage to non-insured goods. Miller’s Moves did, however, offer the consumer a $2,750 refund of the removal cost.

Peter Alan DURWARD, a real estate sales representative, was ordered by the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) to complete his Compulsory Professional Development (CPD) program and, in the meantime, has suspended his registration until he has fully complied with this requirement. On 5 July 2013, the SAT suspended the registration of Mr Durward and ordered him to complete the outstanding three mandatory and seven elective CPD points for the 2009 calendar year. The order was issued after Consumer Protection and the sales representative reached a settlement by consent. Mr Durward’s certificate of registration will be reinstated when he provides the SAT with evidence that he has fully complied with the CPD requirements.

## June

Natalie Jane BRIGGS, trading as FRONTLINE SETTLEMENTS - a Ballajura settlement agent, who has surrendered her licence, was fined $8,000 by the Midland Magistrates Court over the misuse of trust account funds. Ms Briggs pleaded guilty on 20 June 2013 to 13 charges related to failures to comply with the Settlement Agents Act and the agency’s inability to finalise the financial settlement of four property transactions due to the agent’s misuse of her clients’ trust money.

Christopher BROCKLEBANK of Woodvale, trading as PERTH EVAPORATIVE AIR & GAS SERVICES and ELEMENTS ‘HEARTH, WIND AND FIRE’ had a consumer warning issued against him. WA consumers were warned not to deal with this tradesman who has taken substantial upfront payments from customers, but failed to carry out any work. Mr Brocklebank has had nine complaints lodged against him with Consumer Protection in 2013 after charging upfront payments totalling more than $12,000 from consumers.

Mark Edward STRAW, trading as MARKS CEILINGS & RENOVATIONS formerly of Lower Chittering, had a consumer warning issued against him. WA consumers were warned not to deal with this tradesman who has taken deposits and full payments from customers, but failed to begin or complete the work. At the time Mr Straw had eight complaints lodged against him with Consumer Protection related to the charging of deposits and upfront payments totalling more than $22,000 and failing to offer refunds. In August 2011, Mr Straw was warned by Consumer Protection about trading under an unregistered business name and, in May 2012, was warned by the Building Commission for breaching the Home Building Contracts Act regarding a contract with a consumer.

The Supreme Court has granted Consumer Protection interim injunctions against promoters of a rent to buy property scheme in WA which prevent them from engaging in alleged misleading and deceptive conduct. Patricia Mirawati SUSILO and Bryan Artawijaya SUSILO of Applecross, were required to publish statements on their website – www.sellhouseseasy.com.au - clarifying the nature of their business and clearly outlining the purchasing and rental arrangements for the properties they had been advertising for sale under the scheme.

Warren David McFARLANE, a real estate salesman and land valuer of Wembley, was disqualified and fined $1,000 by the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT), after submitting an application with Consumer Protection which contained forged signatures. Mr McFarlane had applied for the renewal of his real estate sales representative’s certificate of registration prior to its expiry in March 2012. The application process requires a declaration from a current employer and an authorised witness. Mr McFarlane, who was not employed by an agency at the time, admitted that he had forged the signature of a former employer, a West Perth real estate agent, as well as two witnesses. The first renewal application was rejected by Consumer Protection because the witness was not authorised, and the application was re-submitted with the forged signature of a licensed real estate agent as a witness.

## May

DALEFIN HOLDINGS Pty Ltd, trading as CENTURY 21 EASTBELLE REALTY, a real estate agency in Maida Vale, was fined for taking too long to lodge a number of tenants’ bonds with the Bond Administrator. The agency was fined $8,000 after pleading guilty in the Midland Magistrates Court on 23 May 2013 to 14 charges of failing to lodge bonds ‘as soon as practicable’ as required by the Residential Tenancies Act. The Court also ordered the agency to pay legal costs of $275.

JUST PROPERTY MANAGEMENT (WA) Pty Ltd, a Bunbury property management company, was fined $10,000 for taking too long to lodge security bonds with the Bond Administrator. The company was also ordered to pay costs of $715 by the Bunbury Magistrates Court on 17 May 2013. Lawyers for Consumer Protection told the Court that the company had taken between 17 and 46 days to lodge 37 bonds totalling more than $50,000. The bonds were collected during May and June 2012. The company faced 37 charges of failing to lodge security bond money with the Bond Administrator ‘as soon as practicable’, as required under the Residential Tenancies Act.

Peter John DAWSON, a salesperson who worked for a West Perth business agent without a current certificate of registration, was fined $2,000 and ordered to pay costs of $3,000 by the Perth Magistrates Court. Mr Dawson of Stirling was the holder of a real estate business sales certificate of registration which expired in October 2005, but it wasn’t renewed. During a routine compliance visit by Consumer Protection, it was found the agency had a certificate of registration on file with altered dates. Mr Dawson had worked for the business agent since March 2001. Lawyers for Consumer Protection told the Court that Mr Dawson had been involved in transactions relating to the listing of seven businesses for sale while not holding a current certificate of registration between May 2009 and his retirement in October 2011. This was a breach of the Real Estate and Business Agents Act. Mr Dawson pleaded guilty on the first day of a planned trial on 13 May 2013.

## April

Bradley John GREEN of Greenfields was fined $3,750 in the Perth Magistrates Court for unlicensed car dealing. Mr Green pleaded guilty on 12 April 2013 to buying and selling 15 motor vehicles between February 2011 and February 2013 without a licence, in breach of the Motor Vehicle Dealers Act. He was ordered to pay Court costs of $394. Lawyers for Consumer Protection told the Court that Mr Green had traded the vehicles from his home and various other locations and had advertised them through Gumtree and Quokka.

Michelle Louise OWEN, trading as SWAN RIVER CONVEYANCING a settlement agent of Karrinyup who represented that she was a licensed settlement agent after her triennial certificate had lapsed, was fined $4,000 by the Perth Magistrates Court on 5 April 2013. Ms Owen pleaded guilty to eleven charges relating to misrepresentations made during the settlement of three properties in Wembley Downs, East Fremantle and Balga. The agent was ordered to pay Court costs of $275. Consumer Protection told the Court that Ms Owen’s triennial certificate had expired on 5 November 2011 and, as a result, a notice was sent by the Department on 17 November 2011 advising that her settlement agent’s licence was no longer valid. On 22 November 2011 Ms Owen agreed to act as a settlement agent for the sale of a Wembley Downs property, then a Balga property in December 2011 and an East Fremantle property in February 2012. Under the Settlement Agents Act, an agent’s licence only has effect if the licensee also has a valid triennial certificate.

DALGON Pty Ltd, formerly trading as ACTON WEST and now trading as ACTON COTTESLOE was fined $10,000 by the Perth Magistrates Court on 5 April 2013. The agency pleaded guilty to 27 charges of failing to lodge security bond money with the Bond Administrator ‘as soon as practicable’, as required under the Residential Tenancies Act. The company was ordered to pay Court costs of $275. Consumer Protection told the Court that the bond money totalling almost $60,000 was collected between February and November 2011 from 27 tenants who had rented properties in various suburbs including Mosman Park, Nedlands, Cottesloe, Claremont, Wembley Downs and Maylands.

## March

UNITED FENCING (WA) Pty Ltd, a fencing contactor, was the subject of legal action by Consumer Protection after a high number of complaints against the company were received from consumers. United Fencing of Mandurah, a registered company of sole director James Lee BATTAH of Harvey, closed their Bunbury office earlier this year. The company signed a Court enforceable undertaking under the Australian Consumer Law with Consumer Protection which places strict conditions on present and future dealings with customers. Consumer Protection had received 37 complaints against this company, with customers claiming to have paid a total of $60,000 in deposits, but little or no work was carried out. Many consumers have taken action in local Magistrates Courts to recover their deposits.

SOLAR HARNESS Pty Ltd, a solar company that made an unsolicited approach to a pensioner, signed her up for a $9,000 contract, and failed to inform her of her right to cancel, was fined $15,000 in the first successful legal action of its kind by Consumer Protection. Solar Harness pleaded guilty to five offences under the Australian Consumer Law and was ordered to pay Court costs of $1,320 in addition to the fine.

STRIKE A CHORD Inc. and LIGHTHOUSE LABORATORIES Inc. have had their charitable collection licence revoked by the Commissioner for Consumer Protection and independent Charitable Collections Advisory Committee, In the Strike A Chord case, the Commissioner and Committee formed the view that the licence of the charity, whose mission statement is to share the gift of music with seriously ill and disadvantaged children, should be revoked following a detailed investigation which raised were concerns about the governance arrangements of the charity. The investigation by Consumer Protection concluded that the financial reporting of the charity did not have a satisfactory level of accuracy, transparency and detail. On 27 December 2012, the Commissioner also revoked the licence of Lighthouse Laboratories Inc. of Midland, a not-for-profit company which had been raising money for research into childhood cancer. The Commissioner for Consumer Protection and Committee found that the charity had mismanaged funds, failed to effectively carry out its charitable purpose and did not have independent governance practices in place.

Faizan AFZAL, a Bentley man who sold 27 cars in one year when he didn’t have a motor vehicle dealer’s licence was fined $10,000 and ordered to pay $425 in costs by the Perth Magistrates Court. Mr Afzal bought the vehicles between February 2011 and March 2012 either through individual private sales or an auction house. He then placed 191 adverts on the online classifieds website Gumtree.

## February

GREEN LIGHT MECHANICAL, a Rockingham vehicle repair business, was fined $1,700 and ordered to pay costs of $353 by the Rockingham Magistrates Court for operating without a licence. Green Light Mechanical in Hurell Way had submitted an incomplete licence application in December 2009 and failed to pay the application fee. Five written requests and reminders from Consumer Protection to supply supporting documents and pay the fee were ignored. The business was eventually granted a licence in November 2012 but had operated without a licence for almost three years. Vehicle repairers in WA are required to be licensed since July 2008.

Consumer Protection lodged a Supreme Court Writ against the promoter of a rent-to-buy property scheme, alleging the company and its Director misled consumers. The Commissioner for Consumer Protection sought injunctions against PRESTO PROPERTY SOLUTIONS Pty Ltd and Director Ms Rowan Amanda LINES restraining them from making false representations to both buyers and sellers involved in their scheme, in breach of the Australian Consumer Law.

David Paul GAMMAL, a real estate salesman, was fined $1,000 and ordered to pay costs of $748 by the Perth Magistrates Court for selling properties without a current certificate of registration. Gammal sold or leased at least nine properties while working for a city real estate agency between March and November 2011. His certificate of registration had expired in February 2010, but he had altered the date on the certificate when he began working for the agency in March 2011.

GREGSONS AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS Pty Ltd, a Welshpool car auction company and its Director, Jonathan Paul GREGSON, have been fined a total of $3,000 for breaking laws related to the selling of vehicles on consignment. The company and its Director were also ordered by the Perth Magistrates Court to pay costs of $532 each on 15 February 2012.

Fadhill Hoosen DULLOO, of Queens Park was fined $8,000 and ordered to pay $581 in costs by the Perth Magistrates Court for illegal car dealing. Dulloo had bought 38 vehicles and privately sold 32 of those without a licence between December 2010 and April 2012, in breach of the Motor Vehicle Dealers Act.

MANAGEABLE TREE SERVICES, a tree lopping and garden maintenance business which used bullying tactics against consumers, was fined by the Perth Magistrates Court after being prosecuted by Consumer Protection. Tracey GORDON is the registered owner and Sean Robert WEINTHAL an employee of Manageable Tree Services in Wanneroo, and were previously involved with METROPOLITAN TREE SERVICES (deregistered) that was named by Consumer Protection in the past. They were fined $1,500 and ordered to pay Court costs of $1,742 each on 11 February 2012. A second set of charges involving another consumer in Salter Point was dismissed.

K J & C THOMPSON Pty Ltd, trading as AUTOSPARK CANNING VALE in Bannister Road was fined $10,000 and ordered to pay costs of $962 for operating without a vehicle repairer’s licence. The company and its Director were convicted by the Armadale Magistrates Court on 8 February 2013.

## January

Graeme John EDDINGTON of Eden Hill, who operated under the business name LIVING POLARBEAR STYLE, was convicted for a second time and fined a total of $10,000 for promoting and taking part in an illegal pyramid scheme. Eddington was fined $5,000 each on two charges of participating in a pyramid scheme and attempting to induce another man to participate in the scheme. Mr Eddington was also ordered to pay Court costs of $5,886 in the Perth Magistrates Court on 11 January 2013.