

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Car "curbers" face criminal charges

NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C. (August 15, 2006) - Two local persons face criminal charges related to illegal business practices with respect to the sale of motor vehicles.

A joint investigation by the Motor Dealer Council of BC (MDC), ICBC and the RCMP led to charges against Ramin Karamali and Mandana Mansouri Tehrani . The charges filed by the Crown Prosecutor state that Karamali is also known as Raymond, and sometimes with the surname Caramel, Carmali or Karmali. They are scheduled to appear in North Vancouver Provincial Court on August 23.

The six separate charges relate to forged documents, sales tax evasion, selling vehicles without a valid motor dealer licence and odometer tampering . It is alleged that they consistently attempted to evade sales tax by misrepresenting vehicle transfers as gifts.

The MDC investigation began in the fall of 2004 and ultimately involved the study of 35 vehicles. It was quickly ascertained that neither of the subjects had a valid motor dealer licence as required by law to engage in the business of selling vehicles, nor a motor vehicle salesperson licence which is also required by law. Meticulous tracing of vehicle histories and interviews with purchasers, led to the charges.

The Motor Dealer Council is an independent administrative authority established pursuant to the laws of British Columbia and has been delegated the responsibility of administering the Motor Dealer Act and related regulations, as well as other statutes as they relate to the sale of motor vehicles to consumers.

- 30 -

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Judy McRae, Manager Corporate Services and Communications
Motor Dealer Council of BC
Phone: 604-293-3521 Fax: 604-294-9313
www.mdcbc.com