District Attorney Marc Bennett 18th Judicial District of Kansas



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For Immediate Release, August 17, 2020

WICHITA, KAN. – An owner of a used car dealership has entered into a consent judgment with the Office of the District Attorney based on allegations of unconscionable and deceptive acts and practices. The District Attorney's Consumer Protection Division investigated Marco Abraham who operates a used car dealership at 5927 E. Kellogg in Wichita after receiving three consumer complaints.

The District Attorney's Office investigated the matter and Abraham admitted he refused to acknowledge implied warranties when he sold three cars with pre-existing defects, failed to disclose those defects, sold an invalid warranty to one consumer and then refused to pay for repairs or provide a refund. Abraham agreed to pay \$37,269.20 in restitution to the three consumers to buy back three vehicles. Abraham also agreed to a \$40,000.00 civil penalty along with the necessary court costs and investigative fees.

The consent judgment calls for an injunction from engaging in deceptive or unconscionable acts and requires Abraham to cooperate in any future complaints while on a 24 month probationary period.

The District Attorney reminds residents, dealerships selling cars for normal ("merchantable") use must be in a reasonably safe condition, substantially free of defects that could render them inoperable, and they must perform up to the level reasonably expected of cars of the same age, mileage, and price. Dealership must also disclose that the vehicle is being sold by a dealer, as opposed to a private individual, because dealerships must provide certain disclosures and warranties to consumers. The District Attorney also reminds residents to regularly check for safety recalls at <u>https://www.safercar.gov/vin</u> and especially before purchasing an automobile.

The consent judgment, filed August 11, 2020, was signed by Judge Deborah Hernandez-Mitchell and investigated by Kristen Zluticky of the District Attorney's Office.

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