



NT DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE LAUNCHES FIRST OPERATION BOUNCE BACK

The National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) today congratulated the NT Department of Justice on its *Operation Bounce Back* campaign to further prevent vehicle theft and immobilise older vehicles.

The campaign is the first of the 2006/7 programs being funded across Australia by the NMVTRC's partnership with state, territory and local governments.

The NMVTRC's Executive Director, Ray Carroll, said, "Vehicle theft has been decreasing gradually since 2002 in the Northern Territory and it is pleasing that the NT Department of Justice has taken up the challenge to reduce thefts even further. *Operation Bounce Back* confronts the high number of older, unsecured cars that are at risk of theft."

"Seven out of ten cars stolen in the Northern Territory are older sedans: the family runabout or your teenager's first car. Almost all these thefts could have been avoided had these cars been protected by an engine immobiliser."

The NT Department of Justice's *Operation Bounce Back* project is giving away 200 Australian Standards approved engine immobilisers, fully-installed, to owners of older vehicles and those who have been a victim of vehicle theft in the past. The Department is also running a high profile education campaign. 50 of these vouchers will be given out as Christmas presents with the remainder being given out over coming months across the Territory.

"Most car owners think 'nobody would want to steal my old bomb'. Unfortunately in the last year more than 700 drivers of older cars in the Northern Territory found out that this isn't true," Mr Carroll said.

Motorists that miss out on a free immobiliser can still have an Australian Standards approved immobiliser installed for approximately \$200 by calling the 24 hour CAR-SAFE hotline on 1300 132 146 (for the cost of a local call).

The NMVTRC is an initiative of all Australian governments and the insurance industry.

Further Information about the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council:

Ray Carroll, Executive Director, NMVTRC 1300 668 410



National Motor Vehicle
Theft Reduction Council

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

- 728 motor vehicles were reported stolen in the 12 months to June 2006 in the Northern Territory.
- Older cars account for the majority of vehicle theft in the Northern Territory, with 70% per cent of stolen vehicles manufactured in 1999 or earlier.
- Vehicles manufactured ten or more years ago tend to lack adequate security and as a result, account for most thefts. The most popular theft targets in the Northern Territory are:
 - Ford Falcons
 - Holden Commodores
 - Toyota Landcruisers
- The best protection against opportunistic theft for older vehicles is to fit an Australian Standards approved electronic engine immobiliser.
- Australian Standards approved immobilisers are available through the NMVTRC's CAR-SAFE program for under \$200. Contact 1300 132 146 for more information.
- The NMVTRC is funding over twenty *Operation Bounce Back* grant packages across Australia in 2006/7.
- The NMVTRC is an initiative of all Australian governments and the insurance industry.



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