



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MLA backs punishment of overcharging by locksmith

The Master Locksmiths Association (MLA) supports the robust action taken recently by Hertfordshire Trading Standards where a locksmith was prosecuted for charging significantly more than originally quoted for a job.

Overcharging is not tolerated within the MLA. With strict disciplinary procedures and a strong culture of integrity, the association takes any complaints against its members very seriously, leading to potential expulsion from the association if applicable.

The MLA has been campaigning for appropriate legislation to be brought in by the Government to license locksmiths thereby regulating the industry and replicating the high standards found within the MLA. With considerable industry experience at its disposal the MLA will happily work with the government to assist in developing guidelines as well as help implement and administer any such legislation.

The association strongly recommends the public use an MLA approved company for any locksmithing work they require (details can be found on www.locksmiths.co.uk or by ringing 0800 783 1498).

For further information please contact:

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Notes to Editors

About the MLA

The Master Locksmiths Association is a non-profit making body; established to set and promote standards of conduct, practice and materials within the locksmithing industry. It encourages its members to further their knowledge through ongoing education, regional meetings, seminars, its membership magazine Keyways and its website. Standards of entry to the MLA are rigorous and high (including CRB checks and inspections), and its ethos of "Skill and Integrity" exists to ensure that the public, government and industry receive the appropriate service and advice on security matters provided by its members. Created in 1958, the MLA became a limited company in 1986 and now the membership, currently standing at over 1400, is world-wide. The MLA is now the leading trade association for the locksmithing industry and is recognised as the authoritative body for locksmithing by the Police, the Home Office, the British Standards Institute, Association of British Insurers (ABI) and Building Research Establishment (BRE) amongst others. The MLA also offers a full suite of training courses to the trade, held at their purpose built training facility at their headquarters in Daventry. Sold Secure, the leading independent security test and validation laboratory is a wholly owned subsidiary of the MLA.

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