



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **MLA sets the standard with regards to locksmithing charges**

The Master Locksmiths Association (MLA) is pleased to see the recent upholding of the prosecution of a locksmith for overcharging despite going to appeal.

Renowned for setting and promoting the standards in the locksmithing industry, the MLA licenses its locksmiths by implementing stringent controls such as CRB checks, the need for a trained locksmith to be employed as well as regular inspections. MLA approved companies sign up to a code of conduct which stipulates that a customer has to be given full information on all the costs of the work being undertaken. Should anything change during the job which will risk a change to those costs then this should be explained in full to the customer and agreed before the work progresses. The MLA also offers members of the public an arbitration service for anyone who isn't happy with the level of service received from an MLA approved company.

For peace of mind the recommendation is to ensure that for any locksmithing needs an MLA approved company is used. Your local MLA licensed locksmith can found via the MLA website ([www.locksmiths.co.uk](http://www.locksmiths.co.uk)) or by ringing head office on 0800 783 1498.

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**For further information please contact:**

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### Notes to Editors

St. Albans crown court upheld fines of more than £10,000 against a locksmith exposed on the TV program rogue traders. The fines were originally imposed at Watford magistrates court last October after the company was found to have misled customers by charging more for work than originally quoted. The locksmith in question is not a member of the MLA.

### **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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