



ERIK NASARENKO District Attorney

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Online Automobile Retailer Settles Consumer Protection Lawsuit

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Carvana, an online retailer selling cars throughout California, settled a multi-jurisdictional civil lawsuit alleging the company operated in California without a dealer’s or transporter’s license. Carvana has sold cars to California consumers since 2015 but did not obtain a dealer’s license until May 20, 2019. They also delivered cars to California customers using their own delivery vehicles beginning in September 2017, without a transporter’s license. Additionally, Carvana sold cars between May 20, 2019, and June 30, 2019, without providing inspection reports to its customers prior to sale, as required by California law. Pursuant to a judgment that was entered on July 20, 2021, in the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Carvana was ordered to pay \$150,000 in penalties and \$50,000 in investigative costs to each of the Los Angeles, Ventura, San Diego, and Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Offices. In addition, Carvana was ordered to pay \$50,000 in restitution to be distributed to a nonprofit charitable organization to support work that advances the public interest. The judgment also includes an injunction requiring Carvana obtain all necessary licenses to sell and transport cars in California and to provide California buyers with copies of completed inspection reports prior to sale. Carvana agreed to the judgment without admitting wrongdoing.

This settlement is the result of a joint investigation and prosecution lead by the Los Angeles District Attorney’s Office Consumer Protection Division in conjunction with the Consumer and Environmental Protection Units of the Ventura, San Diego, and Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Offices.

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The Ventura County District Attorney’s Office is the public prosecutor for the county’s 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 280 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.