

## Car Salesmen Accused Of Stealing Customer IDs November 23, 2006

An investigation uncovered the illegal use of customer information at some big name Central Florida car dealerships.

The report featured Evelyn Gonzales and her husband Carlos, who went to Central Florida Toyota and purchased a new Yaris vehicle.

To secure financing, the couple provided personal information they assumed was safe.

However, a few weeks after bringing the car home, they got a letter from Kissimmee Motor Sports congratulating them of the purchase of their new Kawasaki, the report said. "Bingo," Evelyn Gonzales said. "When we opened the credit report, we got it here, we found the motorcycle in credit report two weeks after we purchased new car."

Gonzales called Casselberry police after the purchase and investigators from Osceola and Orange counties tracked the purchase of the motorcycle to David Sanchez -- the man who sold the family the Yaris at Central Florida Toyota.

"Sensing Sanchez had stolen his customer's identity, detectives dug a little deeper," Local 6's Steven Cooper said.

"I asked the general manager of the dealership what kind of car Mr. Sanchez was driving -- and he said he just bought a brand new Lexus," Orange County Detective Joe Morton said.

Detectives then confirmed Sanchez purchased a \$64,000 Lexus at Lexus of Orlando, using Gonzales' identity, the report said.

Investigators said Sanchez learned how to steal identities from Raymond Rosado when they both worked at Napleton Auto Mall in Kissimmee.

In fact, documents show that Rosado had stolen a customer's identity from Napleton and used it to open bank accounts, and credit card accounts.

"Investigators say Rosado used his victim's identity to get a job at Fountain Auto Mall, buy a VW there, get another job at Tropical Ford, trade the VW in, and buy a Ford Expedition -- victimizing the dealerships as well," Cooper said.

When detectives caught up with Rosado, they found reams of credit reports, purchase agreements and drivers' licenses, "(There was) enough information, in the Expedition and at his home, for Rosado to steal as many as 52 identities," Cooper said.

Both men were charged with identity theft and other related crimes.

The Gonzales family is now left trying to straighten out their credit over the incident, the report said.

Napleton Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge said it is in full compliance with FTC regulations after being contacted about the story by Local 6 News.

Central Florida Toyota said this is the first time identity theft has happened at the dealership.

Detectives said if you go to make a major purchase, never give your license or other personal information upfront. If the business insists, go elsewhere. And don't let the business run a credit report until you're ready to sign a purchase agreement.