



Car Theft?

Police arrest man for buying bargain car

Danny Sawyer is buying a new car from his local dealership in Virginia.

'The Chevrolet Traverse is a great car,' the sales manager tells him. 'And \$34,600 is a bargain price.'

Danny agrees. He signs the contract and drives the SUV home.

Second thoughts

The next morning Danny looks again at his shiny new car. He is having second thoughts about the colour. He decides to go back to the dealership.

When he arrives, the sales manager is out of the office. Danny sees a different salesman.

'Can I change my black



Traverse for the blue model?'

'I think that will be okay,' says the salesman. 'If you could wait to see my manager - '

'I'm in a hurry,' says Danny. 'I need it now.'

Reluctantly the salesman agrees to change the black car

for the blue one. Danny signs a new contract. He then drives away in his new (blue) car.

Meanwhile the sales manager returns. He checks the new paper work - and realises there is a serious problem.

A mistake

That evening Danny receives a phone call from the sales manager.

'I'm afraid there has been a mistake, sir' the sales manager says. 'The model costs more than the black one. We've undercharged you by \$5,600. You'll need to pay the extra money - '

'I'm not paying anything!' says Danny. 'I've already paid the price we agreed.'

Danny puts the phone down. The next day he goes on holiday.

The sales manager tries to contact Danny. But Danny does not return the sales manager's messages. He ignores his texts. He ignores the letters waiting for him on his return.

Arrest

Then one evening Danny arrives home to find the police waiting for him. 'We are arresting you,'

'What for?'

'Stealing this car,' says the police. 'We've had a call from the dealership.'

After four hours in jail, Danny is released without charge

\$2 million?

Danny then takes legal action against the car dealership. They issue an apology. 'It was a misunderstanding,' they say.

But Danny still wants compensation. He is asking for \$2.2 million in damages.

Plus his legal fees, of course.

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Vocabulary

Dealership - sells for single company

Bargain - very good value/cheap

SUV - sports utility vehicle

Ignore - do not respond

Sue - take legal action

Compensation/Damages - money

Legal Fees - costs for lawyers etc

Quick Check

1. Where did Danny buy his car?
2. What make of car?
3. How much did he pay?
4. What was the correct price?
5. What colour was the first car?
6. What colour was the second?
7. Why do the police arrest Danny?
8. What does the dealership do?
9. What does Danny do?
10. How much does he want?