

---

**MEDIA RELEASE – July 21, 2005**

**Central Coast Couple Fined \$75,000, Find Piracy Does Not Pay**

Lake Haven, NSW – On Monday, July 18, a couple from Lake Haven on the NSW Central Coast were convicted in absentia in Wyong Local Court and fined \$75,000 on copyright, trade mark, and classification charges. In October, 2004, Allan and Lesa Anne Glandian were charged following a raid on their Lake Haven home by Toukley police, assisted by the Australian Federation Against Copyright Theft (AFACT). During the raid, police seized 494 optical discs including titles previously not released in DVD format in Australia.

Allan Glandian was convicted in absentia on copyright-, classification- and trade mark-related charges. His wife, Lesa Anne Glandian, was convicted on copyright-related charges and together they were fined a total of \$75,000.

“For this couple, trading in pirated movies suddenly doesn’t seem so lucrative,” said Adrienne Pecotic. “We are pleased with the court’s decision and believe it sends a powerful message to other movie pirates that film piracy doesn’t pay.”

**Piracy in Australia**

Police across Australia have more than doubled the number of illegal discs seized in 2004 compared to 2003. Discs comprise mostly DVD-R copies as DVD-R technology has increased its share of the pirate optical disc market. In addition Australian Customs seized over 40,000 pirate DVDs imported into Australia in 2004, a 185% increase compared to the 14,000 seized by Customs in 2003.

Police jurisdictions now recognize organized crime involvement in film piracy. Organized crime links to movie piracy in Australia were first uncovered following a raid on Malaysia-linked movie pirates in 2002.

**Piracy in Asia**

The MPA estimates that its member companies lose an excess of US\$896 million in potential revenue annually in the Asia-Pacific region alone. In 2004, the MPA operations in the Asia-Pacific region investigated more than 25,500 cases of piracy and assisted law enforcement officials in conducting nearly 12,000 raids. These activities resulted in the seizure of approximately 49,000,000 illegal optical discs, and the initiation of more than 8,000 legal actions.

## **About AFACT**

AFACT works closely with industry, government, police and educational institutions to address copyright theft and protect the commercial interests of the film and television industry as well as the interests of Australian movie fans. AFACT members include: Village Roadshow; Buena Vista International Inc; Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios Inc; Paramount Pictures Corporation; Sony Pictures Releasing International Corporation; Twentieth Century Fox International Corporation; Universal International Films Inc; Warner Bros. Pictures International [A Division of Warner Bros. Pictures Inc]

**For more information, please contact:**

**Adrienne Pecotic**

**AFACT**

**0414 66 45 66**

**[adrienne.pecotic@afact.com.au](mailto:adrienne.pecotic@afact.com.au)**