



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrew J. Lanza

## Senator Lanza Warns New Yorkers to Avoid Scams Involving Sandy Storm Damaged Car Sales

ANDREW J LANZA May 29, 2013

### ***DMV Web Link to National Insurance Crime Bureau Identifies Storm-Damaged Vehicles***

Senator Andrew Lanza today issued a consumer alert warning used car buyers from purchasing storm damaged cars. A link on the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) website [https://www.nicb.org/theft\\_and\\_fraud\\_awareness/vincheck](https://www.nicb.org/theft_and_fraud_awareness/vincheck) allows consumers to immediately determine whether a used vehicle is a “flood car” from Super Storm Sandy or damaged following other storms or circumstances. Approximately 400,000 vehicles were flooded following Hurricane Sandy.

The monumental devastation caused by Super Storm Sandy left an opening for unscrupulous individuals to try to sell salvaged vehicles to unsuspecting consumers. The information posted on DMV’s website can help consumers avoid the costly expense of purchasing a flood damaged vehicle.

The NICB’s VINCheck permits anyone to enter the vehicle identification number (VIN) to determine the status of the vehicle. If the vehicle had been declared as salvage by a VINCheck-participating NICB member insurance company, the NICB site reports both the date of loss and the cause of the damage.

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