

News Release

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Don't let insurance companies take teenage drivers for a ride, warns Warrington solicitor

Parents of young drivers are being urged to double check their car insurance after a number of innocent youngsters have been brought to court for breaking the law.

The warning comes from Warrington solicitor, Gary Heaven, a criminal law partner at Forshams Davies Ridgway. He has recently defended several teenagers charged with driving without insurance as a result of misunderstandings between their parents and insurance companies.

He said: "The massive cost of insurance means many parents are adding newly qualified drivers to their own insurance and then, due to maladministration or misunderstanding, their son or daughter's cover has lapsed at renewal time.

"It's not fair that young people may then be driving without insurance protection and even end up with a police record and risk losing their licence."

In each case his teenage clients have pleaded guilty to driving without insurance but after mitigation, have left magistrates court with an absolute discharge and saved their clean record.

"In many cases, insurance companies are not being upfront or straightforward when policies are altered or renewed, leading to confusion with parents who are left with the misguided belief their children are appropriately covered. And it's their sons and daughters who are suffering the consequences.

"I appeal to parents just to spend a few moments double checking their insurance documents are in order – and that way everyone can drive lawfully."

For more information, contact Gary Heaven at Forshaws Davies Ridgway on 01925 230000. <u>www.fdrlaw.co.uk</u>.

EDITOR'S NOTES:

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