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HD **FORGE CLAIMS HIT MP**
BY Michelle Ainsworth and James Campbell
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A NATIONAL Party MP has been accused of forging the letterhead of a real estate agent so he could wrongly claim hundreds of thousands of dollars in sales commissions.

Former real estate agent and current member for Murray Valley, Tim McCurdy, is being sued for \$375,741 from the **sale** of two northern Victorian farms to **Chinese** interests in 2009.

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In a writ lodged with the County Court, PGW Agriservices has accused Mr McCurdy of "engaging in misleading and deceptive conduct" and unconscionable conduct in contravention of the Fair Trading Act.

Victoria Police is also looking into the matter to determine whether any criminal offence has occurred.

The statement of claim, seen by the Herald Sun, alleges a 581ha **dairy** property in Boosey, about 50km north of Shepparton, was **sold** to overseas buyer Xing Long in July 2009.

The property, known as Malmo, was **sold** for about \$7.8 **million**, including a commission of \$245,850.

A second property in Katamatite, Pinegrove, **sold** for \$3.9 **million** to the same buyer in December that year with a \$129,891 commission.

Mr McCurdy was not entitled to complete either **sale** or claim the commission as he no longer worked for the real estate **company** who had initially negotiated the deals, the writ claimed.

It also alleged he stole documents from his former employer and broke an agreement not to carry on a real estate **business** within 100km of a Cobram **business** he had **sold** to the plaintiff.

The Nationals MP worked for PGG Wrightson from June 2008 until February 2009. The **company** alleges that before Mr McCurdy left, he told a manager the two sales had "fallen over" and "were not proceeding due to the lack of finance".

National Party spokesman Les White denied any wrongdoing by Mr McCurdy. "Mr McCurdy used the letterhead with the knowledge and consent of its owner, and this is what he will establish if the case proceeds," Mr White said. michelle.ainsworth@news.com.au

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