

1997035-Justicia - detective agency

## The con

A BLACKBERRY cellphone, iPod, digital camera, expensive jewellery, dictaphone and PlayStation Portable were stolen from a showhouse in March.

Using its informer network, detective agency Justicia Investigations received information on the theft soon after taking up the case. With police help, this was followed up and a man and a woman of about 25 were arrested. Both appeared in court on March 14 and were held in custody.

During the arrests, the accused admitted to regularly dressing up as wealthy potential buyers, using the fake names Antonio and Adriana Adams, and visiting expensive homes in upper-class neighbourhoods.

The couple would pose as husband and wife, the "wife" looking and acting pregnant. This was just part of the ploy as she had a false stomach in which they hid stolen items.

Over the next few days they would sell the stolen goods and use the proceeds to buy food and drugs before repeating their ploy.

Justicia urged estate agents who might have fallen victim to contact the agency. Some stolen items, including jewellery, iPods, digital cameras and BlackBerry phones have been recovered.