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## Washington state law unmarked police cars

CCO/ArtisticOperations/Pixabay If you're purchasing your first car, buying used is an excellent option. You'll not only be saving a considerable amount of money, but you're looking at the condition of the car, how does the mileage compare? If you're looking at a used car with low mileage, be sure the shape of the body is good. If you're looking at a truck, are the cab corner and rocker panels rotting? These things add up.CC0/ImageParty/Pixabay Look at the Tire's ConditionEven if you're working on a private party used car sale, the condition of the tires matter. Carry a penny with you and, if you can see the top of Lincoln's head when sticking the penny in head-first, then the tire tread is too low, and those tires need replacing CC0/PublicDomainPictures/Pixabay Be Sure the seller is reputable. Research online reviews, what other buyers are saying and if anyone has had negative experiences with the seller.CC0/Pexels/Pixabay Check for Certification if You Want ReliabilityThe best way to ensure the used car is reliable is to purchase it from a dealership that offers certification. These cars are supposed to undergo rigorous testing and inspections before hitting the lot.CC0/Skica911/Pixabay Inspect the VehicleLook over the used vehicle thoroughly before making a decision. Inspect the headlights, turn signals, tail lights, alignment, mirrors and dents. Expect owner-sale used cars, as well as cars from used car lots to have dings and scratches. CCO/StockSnap/Pixabay What Is the Interior's Condition? When inspecting the interior, you'll be able to tell if experienced water damage by looking at the flooring and unusual smells. If there are a lot of stains in the upholstery or if something smells off, then consider looking at a used car sale site, it's critical that you shop around for the best loans. That way, you're not getting hit with high-interest rates. The used car sale price is a significant factor but so are the rates you'll be paying for the lifetime of the loan.CCO/Picsues/Pixabay Don't Forget to Look Under the hood when shopping for used cars. You'll be checking the oil, transmission fluid and brake fluid. When looking at used cars, be sure to learn about what kinds of fluids are best for the kind of car you're interested in buying. CCO/Amber\_Avalona/Pixabay Take It for a Test DriveTest driving a used vehicle not only will tell you if like how it feels when you're riding in it but also how it sounds on the road. You'll also get a picture of what potential problems may arise when you're driving the vehicle in the future. CCO/StockSnap/Pixabay What Is the Vehicle in the future of what potential problems may arise when you're driving the vehicle in the future. CCO/StockSnap/Pixabay What Is the Vehicle in the future. CCO/StockSnap/Pixabay What Is the Vehicle in the future of what potential problems may arise when you're driving the vehicle in the future. to produce these records for you. CCO/Free-Photos/Pixabay MORE FROM QUESTIONSANSWERED.NET The state of Washington generally prohibits the use of unmarked police cars for ordinary traffic duties. Criminals are known to take advantage of the ability to impersonate a police officer in states that allow unmarked traffic patrols by using a flashing light to pull over and rob or assault motorists, so lawmakers in the Evergreen State sought to prevent this by only authorizing unmarked police vehicles for "special undercover or confidential investigative" work. Nonetheless, the Washington State Patrol (WSP) has about 200 unmarked sedans and trucks it uses for routine ticket-writing duties. "Our Aggressive Driving Apprehension Team troopers patrol for the worst," Washington State Patrol spokesman Bob Calkins explained. "They're looking for drivers who are committing multiple violations, such as speed, following too closely, weaving in and out of traffic, or other behaviors that directly impact the drivers around them and create unsafe driving conditions. We think it's helpful for those drivers often change their driving behaviors temporarily if they see a traditionally marked police vehicle. "The state law prohibiting the use of unmarked police cars (RCW 46.08.065) offers an exemption for the state police chief to use unmarked cars as "traffic control," Calkins explained. Motorist Kevin Schmadeka does not agree, saying this is a twisting of a very clear statute. "Just because WSP considers traffic enforcement to be part of tra Schmadeka produced a copy of the 37-year-old bill analysis that explained the intent of the legislature when it originally adopted the unmarked car statute. "The bill is intended to provide better public visibility of government owned vehicles and to provide a means for more efficiently making vehicles operated by the state and units of local government," Legislative Auditor Thomas R. Hazzard wrote in a memo dated January 31, 1975. "A vehicle marking exemption for vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued but is limited to vehicles used by sheriffs, local police and local peace officers is continued by sheriffs. issuing a challenge to Washington State Patrol and the Pierce County Sheriff's Office. "Meet with me and write me a seatbelt ticket from an unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that these cases will be decided upon the legality of the unmarked car, with the understanding that the underst their actions, and it's time for this to be decided in court. "Schmadeka has fought unmarked car citations previously only to have the judge dismiss the ticket on grounds unrelated to the use of unmarked vehicles. Police Here's a fun little tale from "liberty activist" Gav Seim. Seim lives in Washington state, where it's illegal for cops to drive unmarked vehicles unless these vehicles are specially designated for "undercover or confidential investigative purposes." This means that officers can't just cruise around in unmarked vehicles are a ripe opportunity for confusion in a citizens reaction and for criminals to impersonate lawful authority" for nefarious purposes. And the Washington courts take the law seriously: One resident had a felony charge of eluding police thrown out because the vehicle pursuing him was unmarked, and others have had traffic infractions invalidated for the same reason. On October 11, however, Seim noticed a cop driving an unmarked car in Grant County, Washington—so Seim flagged the officer over and asked if he had been pulling people over in the vehicle. Deputy Dustin Canfield said indeed, he had. Seim then informed him that he was in violation of state law and asked to see the officer's ID. "Mr. Seim, I'm not gonna play the game with you," says Deputy Canfield. "This isn't a game; it's called law," Seim retorts. And eventually the cop gives in and produces his license! Canfield also seems genuinely interested (and unaware) as Siem explains the unmarked car law. Watch an unedited version below: With the kind of cop footage we're used to seeing lately, it's almost astonishing that went as well as it did. Had another officer been involved, or especially if Seim was a bit less fair-skinned, it's easy to imagine that encounter turning out differently. But "Deputy Canfield handled this well," wrote Seim after the incident. "I want officers to treat people with respect and I in turn do the same. Disrespectful public servants should never be tolerated, respectful ones should be commended." So cheers, Deputy Canfield! You were illegally pulling people over in an unmarked car for who knows how long, but you didn't physically harm or arrest someone for pointing it out—well played. (No wonder Canfield was the Grant County Sheriff's Office's April Employee of the Month.) I think this counts as a heartwarming police story. NEXT: Watch: Obama's Taylor Swift Strategy-Shake It Off (Remy Remix) Police Police Abuse Criminal Justice Kitsap Speeding Ticket Lawyer Defense Attorney Ryan Witt Washington State Patrol, County Deputies and Local Police Agencies may patrol and pull over individuals when in unmarked cars. Undercover cars may pull you over This is contrary to what a lot of people believe in Counties such as Kitsap, Pierce, Mason and Jefferson. Over the last year, we have heard this statement more than a dozen times. "He can't pull me over, he was in an unmarked car! You can get that ticket thrown out!" People hear that claim so often that they start to believe it is true. It is even portrayed as true in social media. The rumor's origins are from RCW 46.08.065 which does in part say that "[i]t is unlawful for any public officer having charge of any vehicle ... to operate the same ... unless and until there shall be displayed upon such automobile ...the name of such county, city, town ... together with the name of the department or office ... of which the said vehicle is used." I understand that this is tempting to bite on, especially in Counties like Kitsap and Pierce where unmarked cars are pulling everyone over. Don't bite on conspiracy theories For the purpose of laying the conspiracy theories to rest - yes they can patrol and pull you over in unmarked cars. The Statute gives them specific authority. As much as I would like this theory to be true, the theory is deflated by verbiage in section (1), it states that "[t]his section shall not apply to vehicles of a sheriff's office, local police department, or any vehicles used by local peace officers under public authority for special undercover or confidential investigative purposes." Section (3) also states that vehicles used by the Washington State Patrol are exempted for general undercover, confidential investigative purposes, there just must be approval by the WSP Chief. Lastly, there is a provision in the WAC that allows for nearly all state agencies to obtain undercover and confidential license plates for their official vehicles. While we love to hear a good defense theory, we just had to let the air out of this one. So the last thing you want to do is take the smug approach with the officer and ridicule him and yell about how you will expose the whole scam in Court! You will lose, and you will probably look like a jerk. There are better ways for us to defend you on your ticket While the "unmarked car" defense may be a losing theory, there are many actual ways to challenge and win if you are given an infraction. Ryan Witt of the Witt Law Group has been representing infraction clients for more than 15 years with a very high success rate. If you wish to hear what your real defenses are (and not just on-line conspiracy theories) give our offices a call. With offices in Poulsbo, Bremerton and Gig Harbor, we handle infractions in Kitsap County and all the municipalities therein. We look forward to assisting with your infraction defense!

