



AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



CITY OF AMARILLO, TEXAS

January 25, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Sgt. Steve Davis and I am the supervisor for the Amarillo Police Department Motorcycle Squad. I have ridden police cycles for 23 years and have supervised this unit for over 20 years. I am also a certified police motorcycle instructor. I also ride my personal cycle along with my wife very often. I am very concerned about motorcycle safety and applaud anyone who comes up with ideas that can enhance the safety of the operation of a motorcycle. I have been approached by Darrell Young who has come up with an idea of a flashing LED or strobe light that would be situated near the headlight of a motorcycle to gain the attention of other motorists. It is well known among cyclists that other drivers don't seem to see approaching cycles, which leads to numerous accidents, many of which are fatal. I have experienced several of the motor officers that I have supervised over the years that have been badly injured by motorists that suddenly pulled out or turned in front of them. The excuse given is always, "I never saw him." I have also had friends of mine killed in accidents while on their cycles by drivers who also said the same thing. Mr. Young brought a proto-type of a motorcycle with the light he is working on to show to my squad and me. The flashing LED light would definitely get your attention. I was concerned that someone might not remember to turn the light off which might cause drivers of vehicles to think they were being pulled over by a police officer. I am also concerned about whether or not the state law would allow a strobe light of this type. I do think that Mr. Young's idea is worth further investigation and deserving of future consideration.

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