

CHAPTER 2020-62

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1508

An act relating to police vehicles; amending s. 319.14, F.S.; prohibiting a person from knowingly selling, exchanging, or transferring a police vehicle without removing any police markings from the vehicle; defining the term “police markings”; requiring law enforcement agencies to provide an official letter of notification that the police markings have been removed; requiring sellers and auction houses to provide an official letter of notification that the police markings have been removed; exempting sales, exchanges, or transfers of police vehicles between law enforcement agencies from specified requirements; exempting sales, exchanges, or transfers of police vehicles to members of the public for the purposes of collection or display from specified requirements; requiring that a specified notice be provided to certain purchasers, customers, and transferees; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Present subsections (5) through (10) of section 319.14, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6) through (11), respectively, a new subsection (5) is added to that section, and present subsection (5) of that section is republished, to read:

319.14 Sale of motor vehicles registered or used as taxicabs, police vehicles, lease vehicles, rebuilt vehicles, nonconforming vehicles, custom vehicles, or street rod vehicles; conversion of low-speed vehicles.—

(5) A person may not knowingly sell, exchange, or transfer a police vehicle without, before consummating the sale, exchange, or transfer, removing any police markings from the vehicle. For purposes of this subsection, the term “police markings” means decals, stickers, distinctive paint schemes, or other markings attached or applied to a police vehicle which identify the vehicle as a police vehicle.

(a) Law enforcement agencies, before consummating the sale, exchange, or transfer of a police vehicle, shall provide an official letter of notification to the purchaser, customer, or transferee confirming the fact that the vehicle has had the police markings removed.

(b) Sellers and auction houses, before consummating the sale, exchange, or transfer of a police vehicle, shall provide an official letter of notification to the purchaser, customer, or transferee confirming the fact that the vehicle has had the police markings removed.

(c)1. Sales, exchanges, or transfers of police vehicles between law enforcement agencies are exempt from the requirements of this subsection.

2. Sales, exchanges, or transfers of police vehicles to members of the general public for the purposes of collection or display are exempt from the requirements of this subsection. However, upon the sale, exchange, or transfer of a police vehicle for either of those purposes, the seller, exchanger, or transferor shall provide a notice to the purchaser, customer, or transferee in substantially the following form:

USE OF THIS VEHICLE FOR THE DELIBERATE IMPERSONATION OF A PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE IS A FELONY OF THE THIRD DEGREE, PUNISHABLE AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 843.0855, FLORIDA STATUTES.

~~(6)~~(5) A person who knowingly sells, exchanges, or offers to sell or exchange a motor vehicle or mobile home contrary to this section or any officer, agent, or employee of a person who knowingly authorizes, directs, aids in, or consents to the sale, exchange, or offer to sell or exchange a motor vehicle or mobile home contrary to this section commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

Approved by the Governor June 20, 2020.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 20, 2020.