



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

December 17, 2007

Mr. Greg Mauz
2721 Venado Dr.
Christoval, TX 76935-3296

Dear Mr. Mauz:

Thank you for your recent letter. We appreciate your contacting the Office of the Attorney General.

Please understand that the Attorney General does not have a vote in the legislative process. The legislative role of this office is limited to defending the constitutionality of laws that have already been passed if they are challenged in court.

As stated in our previous correspondence to you dated May 8, 2007, an Attorney General Opinion is a written interpretation of existing law where a legal issue is ambiguous, obscure, or otherwise unclear. Opinions interpret existing laws in accordance with all applicable statutes and the Constitutions of the United States of America and the State of Texas.

Texas laws may only be changed by an act of the Legislature. Therefore, you may want to contact your state representative and senator so that they may take your concerns into account when new legislation is drafted.

If you believe that your civil rights have been violated, you may wish to contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Their Civil Rights Division has the authority to enforce criminal statutes concerning willful deprivation of constitutional rights. The FBI can be reached at (972) 559-5000.

Finally, you may wish to discuss this matter with a private attorney. The Lawyer Referral Service of the State Bar of Texas can assist you in contacting an attorney in Texas with relevant expertise. The Lawyer Referral Service can be reached at (800) 252-9690.

Again, thank you for writing

Sincerely,

Alejandro Lugo
Public Information & Assistance
Office of the Attorney General of Texas

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SUITE 608
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79401
(806) 763-2366



P.O. BOX 2910
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910
(512) 463-0676

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Carl Isett

February 20, 2008

Greg Mauz
2721 Venado Drive
Christoval, TX 76935

Dear Mr. Mauz,

I am very appreciative of your efforts to remove red light cameras from the state of Texas. Public interest in this issue is at an all-time high and continues to grow. Active citizens such as yourself can make, and have made a difference in the policies surrounding the cameras.

As you know, legislative efforts have been proposed and defeated for several years now. However, successful progress has been made in building coalitions against cameras. It is my belief that we are at the cusp of action to eliminate the cameras from our streets.

The city of Lubbock recently decided to take down their red light cameras. After a brief period of use, analysis revealed an increase in accidents, an effect opponents have consistently warned would occur.

These factors, as well as others are contributing to the climate of disinterest in cameras that is increasing every day. I hope that you will continue to monitor the situation around the state, and to share your results with your elected officials. I know it will be invaluable to the process in the next legislative session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl H. Isett", written over a circular stamp.

Carl H. Isett
State Representative
District 84



DISTRICT 84

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



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VICKI TRUITT
DISTRICT 98

October 25, 2007

Mr. Gregory Mauz
2721 Venado Drive
Christoval, Texas 76935-3296

Dear Mr. Mauz:

My office has received and we have reviewed the material you mailed to us dated September 20th. Prohibiting the use of digital cameras for the purposes of issuing speeding tickets was a tough fight in our last session and I was delighted that we prevailed. Personally, I agree with you about red light cameras. I have thought they were a bad idea since the first time I ever heard of them. Unfortunately, in Texas they became legal through a legislative maneuver that misrepresented the content of an amendment put on a bill late in our session four years ago. Now the revenues these cameras generate are entrenched in the budgets of the cities that have deployed them and these cities fight tooth and nail to protect those revenues. This is why I supported Senator Carona's bill regulating their use and diverting half of the revenues to regional trauma centers. My feeling is, if the use of these devices is no longer lucrative for the cities, perhaps they will be open to the facts about the impact of these cameras. However, as long as Texas cities are uniformly defending their use, these cameras will be very difficult to ban.

You mentioned that you are working with Both Rep. Isett's and Sen. Carona's offices. That is appropriate as members in both houses of the Legislature recognize their leadership on this subject. I have an excellent relationship with both and take very seriously their advocacy on any issue they pursue.

Thank you for sending us the information and offering to be a resource for us in the future.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vicki Truitt".

Vicki Truitt
State Representative

VT/ds

CHAIRMAN:
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS AND INVESTMENTS
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Drew Darby

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February 12, 2008

Mr. Greg Mauz
2721 Venado Drive
Christoval, Texas 76935

Dear Greg,

It is good to visit with you the other day. As I had stated, we cannot request an AG's opinion according to Sections 402.042 and 402.043 of the Government Code. For your reference, I have attached a copy of this information regarding that statute. As your State Representative, I am also concerned about this issue and I will be visiting with Matt in Representative Isett's office to let them know they can use our name of support in their letter.

I respect your opinions regarding this matter and appreciate the fact that you take the initiative to keep me informed of your stance on this issue. It is only through input from others involved in an organization and my constituents that legislators are able to effectively serve the district. I appreciate your input and will continue in my efforts to ensure that the interests of my constituents and others in Texas are protected in each and every piece of legislation that passes the Legislature.

Again, thank you for your correspondence and please do not hesitate to contact me or my office if I can be of service to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Drew Darby".

Drew Darby
State Representative