

Law Enforcement Usage of Unmarked Vehicles

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Daniel McCay

House Sponsor:

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill prohibits an employee of a law enforcement agency from using an unmarked law enforcement vehicle to initiate a stop for certain traffic violations.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- defines terms;
- prohibits an employee of a law enforcement agency from using an unmarked law enforcement vehicle to initiate a stop for certain traffic violations that are infractions; and
- provides exceptions.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

77-7-28, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **77-7-28** is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 7. Arrests and Citations, By Whom, and How Made

77-7-28 . Restrictions on a stop for a traffic infraction when using an unmarked law enforcement vehicle.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Law enforcement agency" means the same as that term is defined in Section 77-7-27.

(b) "Traffic infraction" means a violation that is an infraction under:

(i) Title 41, Chapter 6a, Traffic Code; or

(ii) a local traffic ordinance.

31 (c) "Unmarked law enforcement vehicle" means a vehicle that:

32 (i) is used for a law enforcement purpose;

33 (ii) does not have a visible light bar affixed to the roof of the vehicle that contains:

34 (A) red and blue lights; or

35 (B) other lights commonly used by a law enforcement agency; and

36 (iii) does not have writing or markings on both sides of the vehicle that clearly

37 identify the vehicle as a law enforcement vehicle from at least 25 feet away.

38 (2) Except as provided in Subsection (3), an employee of a law enforcement agency may
39 not use an unmarked law enforcement vehicle to initiate a stop of a vehicle for the
40 purpose of:

41 (a) investigating a traffic infraction;

42 (b) issuing a citation for a traffic infraction; or

43 (c) issuing a warning for a traffic infraction.

44 (3) An employee of a law enforcement agency may use an unmarked law enforcement
45 vehicle to initiate a stop of a vehicle for the purpose of investigating a potential crime
46 other than a traffic infraction.

47 **Section 2. Effective Date.**

48 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.