

[REDACTED]
July 26, 2007

Colonel Christopher A. Knight
Director, Florida Highway Patrol
Neil Kirkman Building
2900 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Re: Lt. Michael Hughes and Sgt. Christopher J. Chappell
Bureau of Investigations, Southern Region

Dear Colonel Knight:

I want to thank you and compliment you on the outstanding job which Lt. Hughes and Sgt. Chappell did on a case where I was a victim of interstate odometer fraud.

During November 2005, I bought on the internet a used car from a dealer in Sanford, Florida. I had problems with the car which lead us to suspect odometer fraud. Because the car had entered the world of used car dealers in Coral Gables, we emailed on December 22, 2005, to Capt. Mary Lathrop, Southern Regional Commander of the Bureau of Investigations, a request for assistance.

That very same day, Lt. Hughes contacted us with information confirming our suspicion about the odometer rollback. Lieutenant Hughes assigned the case to Sgt. Chappell, who identified the culprit within the chain of dealers and *solved the case within a month* (and that was over the Christmas holidays and included time for us to snail mail documents to him!).

Sergeant Chappell was always professional, kind and courteous to us. It was a pleasure dealing with him.

Thanks to the work of Lt. Hughes and Sgt. Chappell, the State Attorney's Office in Sanford, Florida, was able to file felony charges against the culprit; and it appears that the criminal case will soon be wrapped up.

You can take great pride in Lt. Hughes and Sgt. Chappell. They are a great credit to you, the Florida Highway Patrol, and the Bureau of Investigations.

Very truly yours,

William B. Swim

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