

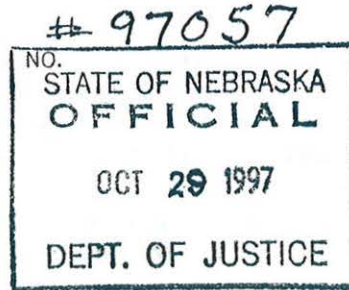


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DATE: October 28, 1997

SUBJECT: 1997 Neb. Laws LB 256; Confidentiality of Information Pertaining to Undercover License Plates; Disclosure of Such Information in Audit Reports

REQUESTED BY: John Breslow
Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts

WRITTEN BY: Don Stenberg, Attorney General
Dale A. Comer, Assistant Attorney General

1997 Neb. Laws LB 256 deals with the issuance of undercover license plates for motor vehicles operated by various law enforcement agencies and various other agencies of state and local government. The bill specifies what agencies are authorized to obtain the special license plates from the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the procedures for doing so. You state that you "have been asked to provide fairly basic information to the press on undercover license plates." In that regard, you then provided us with a draft of a document which lists the number of undercover plates issued to various state and local agencies in 1997 and in 1994. You pose two questions to us pertaining to the release of such information regarding undercover plates.

1. Release of Information Regarding Undercover Plates to the Press.

Your first question pertains to the release of information regarding undercover license plates to the press. You ask, "[m]ay

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