

Report by Geoff Archer
Market opinions in italics

Smokey's got to keep up with the lawbreakers in their fancy sports cars. But "keep up" is a relative term, and most of these police offerings seem like they might have a hard time getting out of their own way.

Condition inferred from seller's descriptions; cars were not physically examined by the author. All quoted material take from the eBay listings. sf=seller's feedback; bf=buyer's feedback



#2000074098-1964 PORSCHE 356 SC Polizei cabriolet. S/N 159303. Light ivory/black/black. 16 photos. Southport, CT. "Documented in Porsche archives as being used at the Police Departments in Dusseldorf and Oberhausen, Germany, from November 29, 1963 to the end of 1966." Never hit. "Frame-up restoration." One of three Polizei 356 cabs in the U.S. "Mixture of authentic and repro police equipment." 70-liter tank. "Not driven since its



restoration and has only been flat-bedded to two car shows." 41 bids, sf 63, bf 161. Cond: 2+. **SOLD AT \$86,600.** *Open 356s have all moved over into the appreciation fast lane. With Speedsters and Roadsters leading the pack, restored SC cabs in this condition can be \$80k-\$90k cars in civilian garb. The unique cool factor of this ultra-rare Polizei model was bought for nothing and will help this particular car grow and hold a high valuation.*

#2000481319-1988 KAWASAKI KZ1000 Policemotorcycle. S/NJKAKZCP23JB500000. Black & white. Odo: 89,725. 8 photos. Jacksonville, FL. Just like the bikes used on "CHiPs." "THIS WOULD BE A GREAT BIKE FOR PARADES, ESCORT, TO RENT OUT FOR A TV OR MOVIE BIKE OR JUST A GREAT DAILY RIDER." Excellent condition, needs nothing. "THE ENGINE WAS FRESHENED UP NOT THAT LONG AGO AND MAKES NO NOISES OR SMOKES." 12 bids, sf 2639, bf 876. Cond: 3. **SOLD AT \$2,225.** *Seems like a fair deal at first glance, but if you dig a little deeper, it's fairly easy to*



find better examples of this plentiful machine for about the same money. In fact, the buyer seems to have overlooked one offered three days earlier in Reno with a quarter of the miles for \$500 less. Shipping bikes around the country isn't cheap, but riding them sure is fun.

#4617647362-1952 CHEVROLET DELUXE Police Car replica 4-dr sedan. S/N 14KKJ59669. Black & white/green vinyl. 18 photos. Pine Grove, PA. "Our local Halloween Parade was coming up so I bought a siren, bubble light, and spray paint and turned it into a cop car. The car looks cool but don't let these pictures fool you. It's all spray paint and bondo. All of the chrome and emblems are spray paint also." Runs & drives (with slipping tranny).



"The muffler fell off so it currently sounds like a killer bee. The interior is in shreds. The floors are all patched up. The floor braces are bad but the frame & suspension are good." 8 bids, sf 447, bf 3. Cond: 4. **SOLD AT \$900.** *Here's the only good reason to buy this car: "I park it at the end of my driveway, everyone slows down because they think Barney Fife is on duty." Well (and honestly) sold.*

#4619417278-1963 FORD GALAXIE 500 4-dr sedan. S/N 3D62C184876. Black & white. Odo: 55,471 miles. 24 photos. Miami, FL. Replica of TV's "Andy Griffith Show" Mayberry cop car based on a two-owner, 55k-mile survivor. "289 engine that purrs no valves knocking or blowby." Fresh paint, original interior, great glass, smooth tranny. Everything works. "Fly in and Drive to any where in the USA!" Lister is "selling this for a friend who



is devoted to the show but after spending the money in converting it fell ill and can no longer drive." 13 bids, sf 13, bf 96. Cond: 3+. **SOLD AT \$6,501.** *Is Ron Howard AARP eligible yet? Hmm. Anyway, it will be at least another half century or so before plain-Jane Galaxy four-doors are at all collectible, and this familiar livery offers a fun way to enjoy all those decades in between. A good deal with no premium paid for the crowd-pleasing conversion.*

#2000484959-1967 INTERNATIONAL armored truck. Blue. Odo: 23,000 miles. 18 photos. Central Virginia. Ex-Lynchburg police. 4WD with hi/lo gears. New straight six with dual fuel tanks. Imposing list of features includes escape hatch, lockable gun slats, intercom/public address system, winch, new tires, spot lamps, fog lamps, and a hydraulic armored



windshield protector and radiator shield. 19 bids, sf 36, bf 23. Cond: 2. **SOLD AT \$6,106.** *I consider this well bought. The purchase price could easily be recouped in a couple of week-ends robbing banks and mowing down ATM machines. A quick coat of paint, and you've got a hobby and a permanent alibi—winning every demolition derby you enter.*

#3200387276-1969 PLYMOUTH FURY III sedan. S/N PM43F9F284963. White/blue vinyl. Odo: 92,655 miles. 13 photos. Berthoud, CO. Unmarked police car replica. 318-ci V8, auto. "The fun stuff include a complete Motorola radio that works, spotlights, police wheels and caps and the looks on the highway!!" Older color change with several rusty spots. "I drove this car from Boston to Denver with absolutely no issues but it does need some things or a complete restoration." 15 bids, sf 0, bf 0. Cond: 4+. **SOLD AT \$2,025.** *I think*

Fresh Meat

Online sales of recent production cars.

2007 JAGUAR XK8 CONVERTIBLE



Date sold: 11/25/2006
eBay auction ID: 130050261746
Seller: Southern Automotive Companies, Little Rock, AR, www.southernautomotivecompanies.com
Sale type: Used car, 575 miles
Details: Triple black, "EVERY OPTION AVAILBLE ON A XK!"
Sale result: \$79,995, 7 bids, sf 29, bf 150.
MSRP: \$94,175
Other current offering: Jaguar Land Rover of Toledo, Toledo, OH, www.toledo.jaguarretailer.com, asking \$93,565 for similar car

2007 MERCEDES-BENZ CL550 LAUNCH EDITION



Date sold: 11/26/2006
eBay auction ID: 140057974745
Seller: Smothers European Mercedes-Benz, Santa Rosa, CA, www.smotherseuropean.com
Sale type: New car, 38 miles
Details: Designer Edition Mocha Black over Sahara Beige Nappa Leather. 382-hp 5.5-liter V8. Nightview, Parktronic, Distronic, Keyless Go, Dynamic Heated/Cooled Seats.
Sale result: \$114,975, 1 Buy It Now bid, sf 4, bf 72.
MSRP: \$99,900
Other current offering: Bache Sales & Leasing, Miami, FL, www.bache4cars.com, asking \$124,975 for similar car.

2008 CHEVROLET CAMARO



Date sold: 08/31/2006
eBay auction ID: 300021042264
Seller: Gary Miller Chevrolet Buick, Girard, PA, www.garymillerchevroletbuick.com
Sale type: "FOR AMOUNT OVER MSRP AT TIME OF PURCHASE."
Details: Buyer determines all trim and options.
Sale result: \$10,100, 34 bids, sf 34, bf 78.
MSRP: est. \$24,000-\$50,000
Other current offering: None ♦



most of us can understand the fun of cloning a police car, but an unmarked one? The price here reflected the fact that this undesirable car did nothing well. A heavy, wimpy V8-powered 1960s Mopar that wouldn't even be any fun at the drag strip. The crate motor and man hours it would take to change that would just be money out the window.

#4609153941-1972 AMC MATADOR sedan. S/N A2A157H239973. Navy blue/blue vinyl. Odo: 17,300 miles. 19 photos. Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Documented ex-Scituate, RI, police car with a claimed 17k original miles. 304 V8, auto. Equipment includes "Front Push Bar, Mopar Police Wheels, Dual Exhaust w/ Glas-pac Type Mufflers, Spot Light, Siren, Roof Mount Bubble Light, Federal Director Siren Control & Radio, Hand-held Aerotron (Police



Radio) w/ Leather case to work with the in-car unit, Wip Antenna." D.A.R.E. graphics with sponsors listed on the rear quarter. Peeling paint and active rust evident on the roof, trunk, and door edges. 6 bids, sf 51, bf 97. Cond: 3-. **SOLD AT \$4,500.** Yuck. This result was at least double any sensible estimate, and was about 4,500 times what I would pay for this ugly orphan in such a crusty state.

#1300450457-1988 FORD MUSTANG LX 5.0 Notchback coupe. S/N 1FABP40E6JF221601. Gray, black & white/gray cloth. 24 photos. Denver, CO. "Has the original core support tags proving it was a Police Interceptor." 5.0L, T-5 5-speed manual. Front end damage, surface rust abounds. "This car needs lots of basic parts (front bumper, interior, misc engine compartment parts, etc.) but all of the specific police interceptor parts are



there." 5 bids, sf 39, bf 7. Cond: 4. **SOLD AT \$1,027.** Fox-bodied Mustangs are everywhere, and finding stock replacement parts will never be an issue. Fair price for what was there, but the time and money to be spent on this restoration would clearly be better spent on just about any older muscle car.

#4619730707-1991 WESTWARD INDUSTRIES GO-4 3-wheeler. S/N N/A. Blue & white/black. Odo: 28,960 miles. 3 photos. Cougar, WA. Aluminum-bodied metermaid machine with "three wheel maneuverability" and "proven automotive components." Purported to have cost \$20k new. "Have driven many times



and it will go over 75 mph. This could easily be turned into an ice cream truck." 26 bids, sf 139, bf 126. Cond: 3-. **SOLD AT \$2,211.** Fair money if you can live without the sleeker new body style (no, I'm not kidding), but if you're taking this three wheeler up over school-zone speeds, I doubt you'll live long anyway.

#4618280539-2002 CHEVROLET CAMARO B4C Interceptor coupe. S/N 2G1FP22G022124775. Black & white/gray cloth. Odo: 58,056 miles. 24 photos. Largo, FL. Ex-Oklahoma State Patrol "B4C" option code Police Interceptor. "The Camaro Is the fastest production Police car around, the car has been clocked up to 168 MPH stock." Seller says this is one of only 583 B4Cs built in 2002. 50 were



ordered by Oklahoma, and an estimated 10 survive. Never wrecked, no rust, \$914 spent on a recent refresh. 14 bids, sf 154, bf private. Cond: 3+. **SOLD AT \$13,500.** Legally stolen. Rare and imposing, this very stealth Camaro was ripped for several thousand less than a comparable looking civilian Z/28, and many thousands less than a mechanically comparable 5.7-L Z/28 SS. Giving Ferrari club guys rear view mirror heart attacks for less than they paid in sales tax: Priceless. ♦