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“This is a great legal analysis”. Mark Vovos, Attorney, Spokane, WA

SUPERIOR COURT, CLARK COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON

State of Washington,	}	No.
Plaintiff,	}	
v.	}	Mr. C’s Motion to Dismiss
J C,	}	
Defendant.	}	

Organization of Motion

This Motion first offers a discussion of CA v. Byers which addressed a hit and run statute from California in 1971. Issues include its impact on the right to avoid self-incrimination and whether this Court must follow CA v. Byers.

Mr. C’s motion to dismiss is next, which reviews RCW 46.52.020 and its negative effect on the 5th Amendment and Art. 1, sec. 9, Washington constitution.

Mr. C suggests that this Court should use strict scrutiny in its examination of 46.52.020, considering the fractured result of the Byers Plurality and Byers’ failure to consider the pervasive impact of police deception on the public’s right to avoid self-incrimination.

This Motion moves the Court to Dismiss the charge of Hit and Run Injury because RCW 46.52.020 is unconstitutional as written and applied.

Motion

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1 CA v. Byers

2 CA v. Byers, 402 U.S. 424 (1971) a plurality opinion, attempted to resolve an issue
3 similar to Mr. Crane’s situation. St. v. Engstrom, a rubber stamped opinion on the minor issue
4 relevant to this matter within Engstrom, 79 Wn.2d 469 (1971) soon followed.

5 43 years late, Mr. C suggests it is time for a new look at the hit and run statute in
6 Washington state.

7 The most important factor today is that law enforcement is judicially allowed to be
8 deceptive in its contact with suspects.

9 The Byers Court holding, as included in St. v. Engstrom included comments about a
10 California hit and run statute that was “essentially regulatory and noncriminal, since there is a
11 strong public policy for disclosure, since the burden of disclosure is upon the public at large
12 rather than a 'highly selective group inherently suspect of criminal activities,' and since the
13 possibility of incrimination is not substantial, the statute does not violate the privilege against
14 self-incrimination. The Supreme Court further held that compliance with the 'hit and run' statute
15 does not provide the state with such evidence of a testimonial or communicative nature within
16 the meaning of the constitution.” Engstrom at 469. Mr. C will contest each of these claims.

17
18
19
20 I. Issue

21 The Right to avoid self-incrimination is thwarted by law enforcement’s ability to deceive
22 suspects.

23
24 II. Argument

25 **Deception**

26 “The use of deception by a police officer does not necessarily affect the voluntariness of
27

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1 a consent to search.” State v. McCrorey, 70 Wn. App. 103, 112 (Div. I 1993).

2 The judicial authorization of deception deflates the Byers’ Court’s holding. “Whenever
3 the Court is confronted with the question of a compelled disclosure that has an incriminating
4 potential, the judicial scrutiny is invariably a close one.” Byers at 427. Byers’ was a plurality
5 decision, not a Majority as claimed within the Engstrom decision. Byers should have considered
6 police deception. The CA Supreme Court holding might have been upheld after such an
7 analysis.

9 The Dissent in Byers found many flaws in the Plurality’s reasoning, but the flaw
10 presented today was not foreseen by the Plurality or Dissent.

12 Law Enforcement’s judicial sanction to deceive people perceived to be suspects, e.g., a
13 driver in an alleged hit and run event, upsets the entire structure of Byers.

14 **Court’s Concerns**

15 “In all of these cases, the disclosures condemned were only those extracted from a
16 "highly selective group inherently suspect of criminal activities" and the privilege was applied
17 only in "an area permeated with criminal statutes" -- not in "an essentially noncriminal and
18 regulatory area of inquiry." *E.g., Albertson v. SACB*, 382 U.S. at 382 U. S. 79; *Marchetti v.*
19 *United States*, 390 U.S. at 390 U. S. 47.” Byers at 430.

21 The reasonable response is that as the Byers’ Dissent pointed out, the Plurality’s
22 examples it presented were actually not a “highly selective group, but that they were members of
23 the public. The Claim that “the privilege was applied only in "an area permeated with criminal
24 statutes”, is inaccurate as the CA Code was 4 volumes long and full of criminal statutes. The
25 proposition that the CA hit and run statute was “in "an essentially noncriminal and regulatory
26 area of inquiry”, Byers at 430, is at least now wrong because as we see in Washington state, one
27

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1 cannot argue that we have “an essentially noncriminal and regulatory area of inquiry” when we
2 are faced with police who will lie to us. It is an artificial legal proposition to say that a member
3 of the public who involuntarily self-reports on himself, violating his right to avoid self-
4 incrimination, is in an “essentially noncriminal and regulatory area of inquiry” when we know
5 the police shall lie to him to further their infraction, misdemeanor and felony investigative goals.
6

7 The Byers Court’s comment at p. 430 that there is a strong public policy for disclosure
8 does not mean there is a strong public policy to ignore our fundamental right to avoid self-
9 incrimination.

10 This police deception explodes the concept that RCW 46.52.020 is an “essentially
11 noncriminal and regulatory area of inquiry”.

12
13 Byers went to proclaim “Even if we were to view the statutory reporting requirement as
14 incriminating in the traditional sense, in our view, it would be the "extravagant" extension of the
15 privilege Justice Holmes warned against to hold that it is testimonial in the Fifth Amendment
16 sense. Compliance with § 20002(a)(1) requires two things: first, a driver involved in an accident
17 is required to stop at the scene; second, he is required to give his name and address. The act of
18 stopping is no more testimonial -- indeed less so, in some respects -- than requiring a person in
19 custody to stand or walk in a police lineup, to speak prescribed words, or to give samples of
20 handwriting, fingerprints, or Page 402 U. S. 432 blood.” Byers at 431-31.
21
22

23 Byers’ dicta here is no longer rational. The concept behind “The act of stopping is no
24 more testimonial -- indeed less so, in some respects -- than requiring a person in custody to stand
25 or walk in a police lineup, to speak prescribed words, or to give samples of handwriting,
26 fingerprints, or blood” no longer presents our reality. Police are allowed to deceive the person.
27

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1 Any person who merely stands in a lineup, say prescribed words, give samples of handwriting,
2 fingerprints or blood, will provide no more than his appearance, his blood, his voice.

3
4 **Today**

5 The person today who presents himself to law enforcement after a motor vehicle accident
6 will be deceived into incriminating himself, a clear violation of his rights as noted below.

7
8 “Disclosure of name and address is an essentially neutral act. Whatever the collateral
9 consequences of disclosing name and address, the statutory purpose is to implement the state
10 police power to regulate use of motor vehicles.” Byers at 432.

11 While this supposed mere disclosure of name and address may once have arguably solely
12 been an implementation of motor vehicle regulation; with police deception, it is not now.

13 Most importantly, “There will undoubtedly be other statutory schemes utilizing
14 compelled self-reporting and implicating both permissible state objectives and the values of the
15 Fifth Amendment which will render this determination more difficult to make. A determination
16 of the status of those regulatory schemes must, of course, await a proper case.”

17 J. Harlan, Concurring, Byers at 458. This is that case.

18 III. Issue

19 A Washington Court need not follow CA v Byers.

20 This Court, in addressing the concerns listed by Mr. C, need not follow the decision in
21 Byers.

22 Byers is a plurality with no guiding single rationale and no clear decision. The CA
23 statute is not identical to RCW 46.52.020.

24
25 Byers ignored the fact that police routinely deceive suspects. This is significant because
26 it undercuts so many of Byers’ rationales for its decision. To suggest that RCW 46.52.02 is
27

1 essentially regulatory and noncriminal is foolish, when police will deceive the suspect while
2 fashioning a noose of vehicular assault around the suspect's neck. Byers' suggestion that the
3 "burden of disclosure is upon the public at large rather than a 'highly selective group inherently
4 suspect of criminal activities" is artificial. The Byers Court created this so-called highly
5 selective group out of thin air.
6

7
8 To suggest that the possibility of incrimination is not substantial, and the statute does not
9 violate the privilege against self-incrimination is foolish. This Court is not required to follow
10 this backward decision that does not squarely address today's facts, rights and law.
11

12 This Court is free to fashion its own decision, based on the law and facts.
13

14 I. 46.52.020

15
16 Mr. C is charged with RCW 46.52.020 H & R Injury mva and DWS 3. He seeks dismissal
17 of the H & R charge. Trial is set for 8-25-14.
18

19 II. Motion

20 Mr. C moves the Court to Dismiss the H & R charge.
21

22 III. Issue

23 Must RCW 46.52.020 be reviewed under Strict Scrutiny?
24

25 IV. Argument

26 **Duty to Report**

27 RCW 46.52.020 imposes a legal duty on a citizen who may be involved in a motor
28 vehicle accident to inform on himself in violation of Washington Const. Art. 1, Sec. 9 and the 5th

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1 Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This legislatively imposed duty is in conflict with our
2 Constitutional rights and must not survive a motion to dismiss. The pertinent portion of
3
4 Washington's provision states: "No person shall be compelled in any criminal case to give
5 evidence against himself[.]" Const. art. 1, § 9. The Fifth Amendment reads that no person "shall
6 be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself[.]" U.S. Const. amend. 5.
7 St. v. Moore, 79 Wn.2d 51 (1971) notes the constitutions provide the same level of protection.

8
9 Our constitutional right to avoid self-incrimination is directly adverse to this state legal
10 duty to obey 46.52.020. Mr. C must legally obey the statute, and the statute is presumed
11 constitutional as written. However, Mr. C and all others in this class of citizens have the right to
12 prevent law enforcement from going beyond our fundamental rights. In the setting created by
13 46.52.020, Mr. C would not be in a custodial situation and Miranda warnings would not be
14 required. There are then no protections within 46.52.020 to alert citizens that they have a
15 constitutional right to avoid self-incrimination.

16 There is the legal fiction that all citizens know the law and are responsible to obey it,
17 because to allow a suspect to claim ignorance of a law and therefore innocence is unworkable. It
18 is a fiction because members of the public do not know our laws with any particularity. It is well
19 known that many lawyers do not practice in more than one area of law because of the
20 complexities in each practice area. There are no more jack of all trade attorneys.

21 However, 46.52.020 extends beyond this fiction. This insufficient statute functions under
22 the "all citizens know the law and are responsible to obey it" dictum and, it also fails to alert the
23 public that they possess a constitutional right to avoid self-incrimination. This failure dooms the
24 statute. It is unconstitutional to legally require a person to incriminate himself in a criminal
25 matter.

26 The statute violates the 5th Amendment and Art. 1, sec. 9 because it does not limit law
27 enforcement's inquiry, and it fails to alert the public that it possesses a constitutional right in

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1 opposition to 46.52.020. Mr. Crane will involuntarily and unknowingly assist the police in their
2 criminal investigation for Vehicular Assault and H & R Injury by obeying 46.52.020.

3 Law Enforcement, by asking defendant the initial questions in 46.52.020, will put the
4 defendant in a position where incriminating evidence will be obtained regardless of the
5 responses. Any responses by Mr. C automatically incriminate him within our adversarial system
6 of justice, as links in a chain of evidence.

7 It is understood Law Enforcement will require self-incrimination within its use of
8 46.52.020 unless limited specifically by a new 46.52.020. 46.52.020 without precise and
9 specific limits that protect a person's right to avoid self-incrimination violates the 5th
10 Amendment and Art. 1, sec. 9.

11 **Strict Scrutiny**

12 State v. Sieyes, 168 Wn.2d 276 (2010), a Second Amendment case, provides this Court
13 with the means to analyze the legal conflict presented by Mr. Crane.

14 “¶ 33 Sieyes asks us to subject RCW 9.41.040(2)(a)(iii) to strict scrutiny, which would require
15 determining whether the statute is narrowly tailored to achieve a compelling governmental
16 interest. [18] Although the Supreme Court has held regulations infringing on fundamental rights
17 to strict scrutiny, (District of Columbia v.) Heller explicitly "declin[es] to establish a level of
18 scrutiny for evaluating Second Amendment restrictions," 128 S.Ct. at 2821.” St v Sieyes, 168
19 Wn.2d 276, 294 (2010). The germane point offered here is that a statute that infringes on a
20 fundamental (constitutional) right is subject to strict scrutiny.

21 “A law will pass the most intensive level of scrutiny, "strict scrutiny," if necessary to
22 achieve a compelling government purpose-proof the law is the least restrictive means of
23 achieving the purpose. See, e.g., Johnson v. California, 543 U.S. 499, 125 S.Ct. 1141, 160
24 L.Ed.2d 949 (2005).

25 St v Sieyes, 168 Wn.2d 276, 316 (2010).

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1 If one assumes for this argument that protecting the injured public as a result of a motor
2 vehicle accident is a compelling state interest, then 46.52.020 is required to be the least
3 restrictive means to achieve its purpose.

4 46.52.020 does not offer the least restrictive means to achieve the purpose implied within
5 it, which appears to be to protect the injured and to obtain the driver's identity and information.

6 There must be a specific and limiting provision added to 46.52.020 that requires law
7 enforcement to avoid violation of a person's right to avoid self-incrimination, and that alerts the
8 public that police questioning involves self-incrimination.
9

10 B. 46.52.020 as implemented violates the WA and U.S. Constitutions.

11 In general, the statute imposes a duty on a driver to provide his identity and insurance
12 information to law enforcement in a situation, like is presented here, when the injured
13 party is unable to accept the information. Under (7), the driver is to contact law
14 enforcement to give information required in (3).
15

16 In a practical setting this statutorily imposed set of duties is in direct conflict with the 5th
17 Amendment and Art. 1, Sec. 9. See Attached.

18 5th Amendment: No person... "shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness
19 against himself."
20

21 WA Art. 1, sec. 9: No person shall be compelled in any criminal case to give evidence
22 against himself...
23

24 **Police Report**

25 In a review of the police report provided to the defense in this matter, it is apparent the
26 police investigation not only sought the name, driver's license and insurance information
27 of the alleged driver Mr. C and circumstances of the accident, but the police also sought
28

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1 information about the driver's possible intoxication and possible reckless driving. These
2 two factors are bases to consider charging Vehicular Assault. At the end of the
3 investigation, law enforcement failed to accumulate sufficient facts to support Vehicular
4 Assault. The state settled on the H & R injury charge in its Information. Within our
5 facts, obedience to the legal duty to give personal information is an act that gives
6 evidence against Mr. C. It is a criminal case as the police immediately made it so.
7

8 **Main Defect**

9 The main defect in 46.52.020 is its obvious ability to admit self-incriminating statements
10 that the 5th Amendment and Art. 1, sec. 9 mean to exclude.
11

12 C. Review used in Byers

13 The Byers Court Plurality did not use Strict Scrutiny to address its concerns in the
14 California matter.
15

16 Chief Justice Burger, joined by Stewart, White, and Blackmun chose to balance the
17 public need, on the one hand, and the individual claim to constitutional protections, on the other.
18 Byers at 424. The justices looked at the income tax, communist party registration, the federal
19 gambling tax and firearm registration cases and the justices compared the "highly selective group
20 inherently suspect of criminal activities" and the privilege was applied only in "an area
21 permeated with criminal statutes" -- not in "an essentially noncriminal and regulatory area of
22 inquiry against the mere possibility of prosecution in a hit and run situation. Byers at 424.
23

24 The Plurality compared the competing interests and ignored the precedent that strict
25 scrutiny should be used when a state regulation restricts a constitutional right, as noted in
26 Sieyes.
27

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1 Justice Harlan simply wrote that “Considering the noncriminal governmental purpose in
2 securing the information, the necessity for self-reporting as a means of securing the information,
3 and the nature of the disclosures involved, I cannot say that the purposes of the Fifth Amendment
4 warrant imposition of a use restriction as a condition on the enforcement of this statute.” Byers
5 at 458.

6
7 Mr. C’s argument follows closely along with the Dissent in Byers.

8 Justice Black, with whom Justice Douglas and Justice Brennan join, dissenting wrote that
9 “Since the days of Chief Justice John Marshall this Court has been steadfastly committed
10 to the principle that the Fifth Amendment's prohibition against compulsory self-
11 incrimination forbids the Federal Government to compel a person to supply information
12 which can be used as a "link in the chain of testimony" needed to prosecute him for a
13 crime.” Byers at 459.

14
15 “The plurality opinion, if agreed to by a majority of the Court, would practically wipe out
16 the Fifth Amendment's protection against compelled self-incrimination. This protective
17 constitutional safeguard against arbitrary government was first most clearly declared by Chief
18 Justice Marshall in the trial of Aaron Burr in 1807. *United States v. Burr, supra*. In erasing this
19 principle from the Constitution the plurality opinion retreats from a cherished guarantee of
20 liberty fashioned by James Madison and the other founders of what they proudly proclaimed to
21 be our free government. One need only read with care the past cases cited in today's opinions to
22 understand the shrinking process to which the Court today subjects a vital safeguard of our Bill
23 of Rights. Byers at 459.

24
25
26
27 “The plurality opinion, *ante* at 402 U. S. 431, appears to suggest that those previous cases

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1 are not controlling because respondent Byers would not have subjected himself to a "substantial
2 risk of self-incrimination" by stopping after the accident and providing his name and address as
3 required by California law." Byers at 460.

4
5 The plurality opinion also seeks to distinguish this case from our previous decisions on the
6 ground that § 20002(a)(1) requires disclosure in an area not "permeated with criminal statutes"
7 and because it is not aimed at a "highly selective group inherently suspect of criminal
8 activities." *Ante* at 402 U. S. 430. Of course, these suggestions ignore the fact that *this particular*
9 *respondent* would have run a serious risk of self-incrimination by complying with the disclosure
10 statute. Furthermore, it is hardly accurate to suggest that the activity of driving an automobile in
11 California is not "an area permeated with criminal statutes." *Ibid.* And it is unhelpful to say the
12 statute is not aimed at an "inherently suspect" group because it applies to "all persons who drive
13 automobiles in California." *Ibid.* The compelled disclosure is required of all persons who drive
14 automobiles in California *who are involved in accidents causing property damage*. [Footnote
15 3/2] If this group is not "suspect" of illegal activities, it is difficult to find such a group." Byers
16 at 460.

17
18 "This suggestion can hardly be taken seriously. A California driver involved in an
19 accident causing property damage is in fact, very likely to have violated one of the hundreds of
20 state criminal statutes regulating automobiles which constitute most of two volumes of the
21 California Code. [Footnote 3/1] More important, the particular facts of this case demonstrate that
22 Byers would have subjected himself to a "substantial risk of self-incrimination," *ante* at 402 U.
23 S. 431, had he given his name and address at the scene of the accident. He has now been charged
24 not only with failing to give his name, but also with passing without maintaining a safe distance
25
26
27
28

1 as prohibited by California Vehicle Code § 21750 (Supp. 1971). It is stipulated that the allegedly
2 improper passing caused the accident from which Byers left without stating his name and
3 address. In a prosecution under § 21750, the State will be required to prove that Byers was the
4 driver who passed without maintaining a safe distance. Thus, if Byers had stopped and provided
5 his name and address as the driver involved in the accident, the State could have used that
6 information to P 461 establish an essential element of the crime under § 21750. It seems
7 absolutely **fanciful to suggest** (bold added) that he would not have faced a "substantial risk of
8 self-incrimination," *ante* at 402 U. S. 431, by complying with the disclosure statute.
9

10
11 The plurality opinion also seeks to distinguish this case from our previous decisions on the
12 ground that § 20002(a)(1) requires disclosure in an area not "permeated with criminal statutes"
13 and because it is not aimed at a "highly selective group inherently suspect of criminal
14 activities." *Ante* at 402 U. S. 430. Of course, these suggestions ignore the fact that *this particular*
15 *respondent* would have run a serious risk of self-incrimination by complying with the disclosure
16 statute. Furthermore, it is hardly accurate to suggest that the activity of driving an automobile in
17 California is not "an area permeated with criminal statutes." *Ibid.* And it is unhelpful to say the
18 statute is not aimed at an "inherently suspect" group because it applies to "all persons who drive
19 automobiles in California." *Ibid.* The compelled disclosure is required of all persons who drive
20 automobiles in California *who are involved in accidents causing property damage*. [Footnote
21 3/2] If this group is not "suspect" of illegal activities, it is difficult to find such a group. Byers at
22 462.
23
24
25

26 "I also find unacceptable the alternative holding that the California statute is valid
27 because the disclosures it requires are not "testimonial" (whatever that term may mean). *Ante* at
28

1 402 U. S. 431. Even assuming that the Fifth Amendment prohibits the State only from
2 compelling a man to produce "testimonial" evidence against himself, the California requirement
3 here is still unconstitutional. What evidence can possibly be more "testimonial" than a man's own
4 statement that he is a person who has just been involved in an automobile accident inflicting
5 property P 463 damage?" Byers at 463.
6

7 The main complaint by Mr. C as mirrored in the Byers Dissent is the failure to follow the
8 prohibition against self-incrimination. The Byers Plurality wipes out the content of our
9 5th amend. as created by our founding fathers.
10

11 **Foolish Notion**

12 In reality the claim in the Plurality that one does not subject himself to a substantial risk
13 of self-incrimination by providing his name and address is a foolish notion. Justice Black
14 could not take the Plurality seriously. The statutes that are violated in a hit and run
15 incident are traffic infraction violations and felonies such as Vehicular Assault and Hit
16 and Run Injury. RCW 46.52.020's requirements would provide essential elements of the
17 charges. One knows that assuming the responsibility to drive a car and getting into an
18 accident involves potential property and injury damages.
19

20 Finally, as Justice Black notes, what can be more testimonial that a man's own
21 statements in which he incriminates himself after becoming involved in property damage
22 or injury to another?
23

24 Mr. C argues that strict scrutiny is appropriate because 46.52.020 is a state regulation
25 infringing on a fundamental right. "Sieyes asks us to subject RCW 9.41.040(2)(a)(iii) to
26 strict scrutiny, which would require determining whether the statute is narrowly tailored
27

1 to achieve a compelling governmental interest. [18] Although the Supreme Court has
2 **held regulations infringing on fundamental rights to strict scrutiny...**” (bold added).

3 St v Sieyes, 168 Wn.2d 276, 316 (2010).

4 Strict scrutiny is the appropriate level of review because the state statute infringes on the
5 fundamental right to avoid self-incrimination.

6 (inserted 2-18-15: consider adding st v Hirshfelder, 170 Wn.2d 536, 550 (2010) I have not yet
7 read it). (consider city of Redmond v. Moore, 151 wn.2d 664, 669, 2004, quote: to show stat is
8 unconst. on its face, def must show no set of circum. Exist in which the stat as written can be
9 const applied) I am unsure if I showed this here) (Note – in Moore, 669: to show stat is uncon as
10 applied to future applic of the stat in a similar context.)

11
12 D. The Byers Court’s Plurality

13 The Plurality in Byers means that there is no Majority agreement on the reasons for
14 the Court’s result. This opens up for review whether these is any single authoritative
15 rule of law in Byers. Comparing the content of the comments of the Dissent with the
16 Plurality, there is no single authoritative rule of law. The result is that it is impossible
17 to avoid a collection of arbitrary rules within Byers.

18
19 One example of Byers’ arbitrary rules is “The plurality seems to believe that
20 membership in such a suspect group is somehow an indispensable foundation for any Fifth
21 Amendment claim. *See ante* at 402 U. S. 429-431. Of course, this is not so, unless the plurality is
22 now prepared to assume that *McCarthy v. Arndstein*, 266 U. S. 34 (1924), *Counselman v.*
23 *Hitchcock*, 142 U. S. 547 (1892), *Garrity v. New Jersey*, 385 U. S. 493 (1967), and *Spevack v.*
24 *Klein*, 385 U. S. 511 (1967), were based, respectively, upon the unarticulated premises that
25 bankrupts, businessmen, policemen, and lawyers are all "group[s] inherently suspect of criminal
26 activities." Instead, in the words of the California Supreme Court,
27
28

1 "in each case, the crime-directed character of the registration requirement was . . .
2 important only insofar as it supported the claims of the specific petitioners that they
3 faced 'substantial hazards of self-incrimination' justifying invocation of the privilege.
4 Byers at 469.

5 This collection of arbitrary rules given to us by the Plurality leaves later courts with
6 questions of clarity about how they must arrive at the result in Byers. Mr. Crane
7 argues that strict scrutiny is appropriate because Byers is not clear on which level of
8 review was used by each Justice, and the Justices' lack of uniformity made the matter
9 vague and unworkable, especially now with the present element of police deception.
10

11 This use of strict scrutiny leaves present courts with the discretion and independence
12 to create workable decisions while considering the result in Byers. This is
13 advantageous to this present Court because there are 43 years of history since Byers
14 with which to make a reasoned decision to support our constitutional rights. See
15 Plurality and Precedence..., Washington Univ. L.R., Vol. 85, Issue 6 (2008) J.A.
16 Bloom.
17

18
19 **Not a Binding Precedent.**

20 "Footnote 22. Texas v. Brown, 460 U.S. 730, 737 (1983) (plurality opinion) (holding that while
21 one particular plurality opinion was "not a binding precedent, as the considered opinion of four
22 Members of this Court it should obviously be the point of reference for further discussion of the
23 issue").

24 The Supreme Court's most famous ruling about the precedential value of plurality
25 opinions came in Marks v. United States, 430 U.S. 188 (1977). In Marks, the Court ruled that
26 some portions of plurality opinions could be treated as binding.

27 "When a fragmented Court decides a case and no single rationale explaining the result enjoys
28 the assent of five Justices, the holding of the Court may be viewed as that position taken by

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1 those Members who concurred in the judgments on the narrowest grounds.” Id. at 193.
2 However, both the Supreme Court as well as other courts and commentators have balked at
3 treating the Marks approach as the default rule for interpreting pluralities. See, e.g., Grutter v.
4 Bollinger, 539 U.S. 306, 325 (2003) (“[The Marks] test is more easily stated than applied”
5 (quoting Nichols v. United States, 511 U.S. 738, 745–46 (1994))); Hochschild, supra note 1, at
6 280– 81.

7 While Marks and Brown alone might not prove the middle ground of authority suggested above,
8 these cases are evidence that the Court takes these decisions seriously and wants other courts to
9 do the same.”

10 Plurality and Precedence, at 1373.

11 There is a great deal of difference between this Court using Byers as a point of reference
12 and binding precedent. The conclusion of the scholarly treatise listed above comes down on
13 using Byers as a point of reference and nothing more.

14
15 E. It is understood that law enforcement is permitted to deceive suspects, and in certain
16 cases, actively lie to them.

17 Appellate case quotes from St. v. McCrorey and others follow.

18 “The use of deception by a police officer does not necessarily affect the voluntariness
19 of a consent to search.”

20 State v. McCrorey, 70 Wn. App. 103, 112 (Div. I 1993).

21 And...

22
23 “We find the Ninth Circuit's approach in United States v. Bosse, 898 F.2d 113 (9th
24 Cir.1990) persuasive. A government agent who gains entry by misrepresenting the scope
25 or purpose of the investigation raises special policy considerations. It is improper for a
26 government agent to gain entry by invoking the occupant's trust, then subsequently

27
28 Motion betraying that trust. Bosse, 898 F.2d at 115 (citing SEC v. ESM Government Securities,

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1 Inc., 645 F.2d 310, 316 (5th Cir.1981)). Members of the public should be able to safely
2 rely on the representations of government agents acting in their official capacity. Bosse,
3 898 F.2d at 115. See also United States v. Briley, 726 F.2d 1301 (8th Cir.1984) (similarly
4 drawing a distinction between undercover ruse entries and cases where officers falsely
5 state 70 Wn.App. 114 the purpose of entry). [10] We conclude that police acting in
6 their official capacity may not actively misrepresent their purpose to gain entry or exceed
7 the scope of consent given.”

8
9 St v McCrorey, 70 Wn. App. 103, 113-114 (1993).

10 However, the court continued “We conclude that police acting in their official capacity
11 may not actively misrepresent their purpose to gain entry or exceed the scope of consent
12 given.” Id at 114.

13
14 “The court held that “[W]e recognize the necessity for some undercover police activity
15 and that in the detection of many types of crime, the government is entitled to use decoys
16 and to conceal the identity of its agents.” United States v. Wright, 641 F.2d 602, 604 (8th
17 Cir.1981).”

18
19 St. v. Hashman, 46 Wn. App. 211, 216 (1986).

20 “Law enforcement conduct does not violate due process unless it is “so shocking as to
21 violate fundamental fairness.” State v. Smith, 93 Wash.2d 329, 351, 610 P.2d 869 (1980).
22 See also United States v. Russell, 411 U.S. 423, 93 S.Ct. 1637, 36 L.Ed.2d 366 (1973);
23 State v. Emerson, 10 Wash.App. 235, 517 P.2d 245 (1973). The mere fact of deceit will
24 not defeat a prosecution, “for there are circumstances when the use of deceit is the only
25 practicable law enforcement technique available.” Russell, 411 U.S. at 436, 93 S.Ct. at
26 1645. It appears that the broad “fundamental fairness” guaranty is not transgressed absent
27

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1 "coercion, violence or brutality to the person." See *Irvine v. California*, 347 U.S. 128,
2 132-33, 74 S.Ct. 381, 382-83, 98 L.Ed. 561 (1954) (distinguishing *Rochin v. California*,
3 342 U.S. 165, 72 S.Ct. 205, 96 L.Ed. 183 (1952)). See also *United States v. Kelly*, 707
4 F.2d 1460 (D.C.Cir.1983), and cases cited therein. "The requisite level of outrageousness
5 ... is not established merely upon a showing of obnoxious behavior or even flagrant
6 misconduct on the part of the police ..." *Kelly*, at 1476."

7
8 *St. v. Myers*, 102 Wn.2d 548, 551 (1984).

9 "Washington courts have been more specific. In *State v. Huckaby*, 15 Wash.App. 280,
10 549 P.2d 35 (1976), the court stated:

11 The use of deception to gain entry to a premises, as long as no force is involved, has
12 long been considered proper police practice, and in such cases law enforcement officers
13 need not announce their identity, authority, and purpose under the "knock and announce"
14 rule. *Huckaby*, at 285, 549 P.2d 35. Thus, "the ruse will be permitted but only if
15 successful." *Ellis*, 21 Wash.App. at 125, 584 P.2d 428. See also *State v. Hartnell*, 15
16 Wash.App. 410, 550 P.2d 63 (1976)."

17
18 *St. v. Myers*, 102 Wn.2d 548, 554 (1984).

19
20 It is clear here that our courts to some degree authorize police deception. This is to be
21 distinguished from the foolish notion that police deception may disrupt our fundamental
22 rights.

23 **Knowledge**

24
25 However, within the dark concept of police deceptions, there is a light. "The basic
26 principle of a ruse entry is also supported by expectation of privacy analysis, which holds
27 that what a person **knowingly exposes** (bold added) to the public, even in one's home, is

1 not the subject of Fourth Amendment protection. *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347,
2 351, 88 S.Ct. 507, 511, 19 L.Ed.2d 576 (1967).”

3 St. v. Nederland, 51 Wn. App. 304, 309 (1988).

4 In *St. v. C*, RCW 46.52.020’s duty extends far beyond what a person knowingly
5 exposes to the public. Any person in Mr. C’s position is forced to obey a legal duty, one
6 that he is not knowingly exposing to the public.

7
8 “What a person knowingly exposes to the public, even in his own home or office, is not a
9 subject of Fourth Amendment protection. See *Lewis v. United States*, 385 U.S. 206, 210
10 [, 87 S.Ct. 424, 17 L.Ed.2d 312 (1966)] ... But what he seeks to preserve as private, even
11 in an area accessible to the public, may be constitutionally protected...(Citation omitted.)
12 *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 351, 88 S.Ct. 507, 511, 19 L.Ed.2d 576 (1967).”

13
14 There is no reasonable expectation of privacy in a home where illegal business is openly
15 conducted and, therefore, it is not entitled to Fourth Amendment protection.”

16 St. v. Hastings, 119 Wn.2d 229, 253 (1992).

17
18 Mr. C’s point here is that he is expected to legally obey 46.52.020, notwithstanding his
19 5th Amend. right to avoid self-incrimination. Hastings makes clear the distinction
20 between what a person willingly makes open to the public, as opposed to what he is
21 ordered to do in violation of his 5th amend. right to avoid self-incrimination.

22 St. v. McCrorey and the other cases illustrate the police power to deceive, and the
23 Court’s duty to narrowly limit that power under strict scrutiny when it conflicts with our
24 constitutional rights. As stated above, “Members of the public should be able to safely
25 rely on the representations of government agents acting in their official capacity.” Mr. C
26 and the public are not required to avoid self-incrimination as 46.52.020 demands.
27

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1 F. Driver must contact Police per 46.52.020(7).

2 This statute sets up the driver for involuntary relinquishment of his constitutional rights
3 against self-incrimination, in a situation where there is no policeman on the scene and the
4 injured party is not able to accept the driver's information. The statute requires a driver
5 to involuntarily go to a police station to provide the information. RCW 46.52.020(7).
6

7 **Seamless Web**

8 We know that police routinely deceive suspects and they are trained to do so. We know
9 that law enforcement in state v. Crane investigated the motor vehicle accident for
10 Vehicular Assault and H & R Injury offenses.

11 We know that we have an adversarial justice system, pitting the police against the
12 suspect. Requiring a driver to submit himself to the police interrogation in this situation
13 is a violation of his constitutional rights against self-incrimination. To believe less is to
14 accept that a policeman would forego his training and its adversarial nature, and placidly
15 note whatever a suspect offers. It is more likely the Sun will rise in the west.
16

17 Since the Sun rises in the east, and police always seek incriminating information,
18 46.52.020 as written and implemented violates our constitutional rights against self-
19 incrimination.
20

21 Further, no particular statute exists in a vacuum. The Court must consider the facts, our
22 constitutional rights and our laws which are intended to be a seamless web. These factors
23 require more than 46.52.020 offers. The reviewing Court should consider all of the facts,
24 rights and law, not just 46.52.020 by itself.
25

26 **Conclusion**

27 Mr. C, based on the facts and law asks the Court to dismiss the H & R Injury charge.
28

Motion

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1 Respectfully submitted,

2 Dated this 14th day of August, 2014

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Attorney for Mr. C

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