

2012

GPS Tracking Device Discovered Attached to Vehicle



Photo of GPS Tracking Device Discovered Underneath
Rear Passenger Side Bumper

7:08 PM

On Thursday, May 3, 2012 at 7:08 PM, after a series of possibly unrelated coincidences that caused people to wonder if they were in fact being tracked, three people crawled under a car and discovered a GPS tracking device.

On Friday, May 4, 2012, six people delivered the tracking device to the Weld County Sheriff's Office. The chief deputy traced the serial numbers and reported that the Larimer County Sheriff's Office owned the device. The Larimer County Sheriff's Office explained to the Weld County Sheriff's Office that the device was placed on the victim's car four months prior.

Four people went to the Larimer County Sheriff's Office to retrieve a copy of the court order/warrant that is required by law to exist prior to the placement of a tracking device on a private vehicle. The Larimer County Sheriff's Office claimed that they did not have a court order/warrant in their possession. We were told to go to the Larimer County Justice Center to retrieve a copy.

Inside the Larimer County Justice Center, the Larimer County District Attorney's Office explained that a court order/warrant for the GPS tracking device does not exist. The same office explained that a court order/warrant for the phone wire-tap does not exist. Further, the Larimer County District Attorney's Office reported that a log of the four-month tracking locations does not exist.

The owner of the car, who has been illegally tracked for four months, was also surrounded and harassed by three deputies in August 2011; and she was arrested illegally, unlawfully detained, and her phone was illegally wire-tapped in late December 2011. The Larimer County Sheriff's Office is currently being sued for those offenses. *The woman has never been charged with a crime; she has not violated any laws.*

The Supreme Court of the United States reaffirmed the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution by issuing a unanimous ruling on January 23, 2012: The justices, stating that GPS device tracking constitutes a search, declared that law enforcement officers are required to obtain a warrant before global positioning tracking devices are installed on a vehicle.

“The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.” Fourth Amendment, United States Constitution



May 3, 2012, 7:15 PM. Photo of GPS tracking device placed on rear bumper of the car to show the relative size and the three components.