

DPS officials say motorists lie to avoid showing proof of liability insurance

# Uninsured drivers use loophole to evade law

HOUSTON (AP) — A new Insurance Reform Act, which went into effect on Sept. 1, requires drivers to show proof their vehicle is covered by liability insurance before they can apply for an operator's permit, license plates or car inspection.

But there's a loophole, and Department of Public Safety officers say so many motorists are trying it, it already has reached epidemic proportions.

In the past, drivers were required to show proof their vehicle was covered by liability insurance only if stopped by law enforcement officers while driving. Failure to carry proof of liability could result in a fine ranging from \$175 to \$350. Subsequent violations carry fines up to \$1,000 and seizure of a vehicle for 180 days.

The new law allows drivers who don't own a car to sign a sworn affidavit acknowledging that fact. If they do, the proof of li-

ability requirement is waived. "We've got a parking lot overflowing with motor vehicles that no one owns," said the clerk, who declined to identify herself to a Houston newspaper. "And these are adults, not kids."

It was scuttlebutt-spreading-like-wildfire at its finest, she said. After one applicant claimed the exemption, the news moved down the line of applicants like an infection. A stack of 150 waiver forms — which a supervisor suggested

would last a week — was used by noon.

A spot check of DPS license offices around the state shows that it's not a common occurrence yet, but troopers in each location said they weren't surprised that some drivers were taking the chance to lie, even though it's a criminal act.

Various criminal laws apply, law enforcement officers say, with the most severe constituting a third-degree felony.

## Police search for evidence in slayings of 3 persons

HOUSTON (AP) — Investigators have used lasers and fingerprinting bombs to find clues in what appears to be the professional slayings of a man and his two sons in an upper-class home in northwest Harris County.

"Whoever came over there, came over there to kill them," said Harris County Sheriff's Department Sgt. Skip Oliver. "They did it quickly, and professionally, and left."

The bodies of Barry Carlton Woodley, 45, and his two sons, Gregory John Woodley, 23, and Jeremy Joel Woodley, 15, were found about 9 p.m. Thursday in the family's living room.

The bodies were lined up face-down on cushions on the floor, and a cord bound the two boys at the leg.

All three victims had been shot with a .22-caliber weapon at point-blank range several times in the back of the head.

"It looks like they were killed one, two, three, just like that," Oliver said. "It looks like a professional hit."

## Pastor criticizes Baylor Ties with Baptists 'can't be severed,' he says

DALLAS (AP) — The Baptist General Convention of Texas stands "at the greatest crisis in its history," and that crisis has been perpetuated by the actions of Baylor University, the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dallas said from the pulpit Sunday.

Beginning with the history of the 12,000-student university, the Rev. Joel Gregory recalled Baylor's ties to the Baptist church in Texas. He emphasized the BGCT's financial support of Baylor, even during the Waco school's formative years.

"From its beginning, Baylor University was the crown jewel for Texas Baptists and glory of Texas Baptists," he said.

"The life of Baylor University and the First Baptist Church of Dallas can't be severed," he added.

The BGCT and the world's largest Baptist-supported university have been at odds since Baylor trustees, now called regents, proposed last year to create a new semi-autonomous governing board. The move would change the school's 146-year-old charter to allow the convention to choose only 25 percent of the new governing board.

The university would select the remaining board members.

Earlier this month, a committee of BGCT leaders approved the proposal.

## Former FBI translator goes to trial

HOUSTON (AP) — A former FBI translator indicted more than three years ago for allegedly leaking classified information to the Taiwanese government will be tried this week in a Houston federal courtroom.

Douglas S. Tsou, 67, a naturalized China native, worked as a language specialist for the FBI for six years before being fired in October 1986.

Prosecutors allege Tsou in

March 1986 anonymously sent a letter with classified information to the Houston office of the Coordination Council for North American Affairs, the unofficial representative of Taiwan's interests in the United States.

Tsou was indicted by a federal grand jury in 1988 for passing classified information to an agent of a foreign power. If convicted, he could be sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Jury selection is scheduled to begin Tuesday in U.S. District Judge Lynn Hughes' court.

The United States withdrew diplomatic recognition of Taiwan in 1979 after normalizing relations with the People's Republic of China. Since then, the countries have maintained quasi-diplomatic relations through the American Institute in Taiwan and the CCNAA in this country.



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