

May 31, 2008

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release:

Representatives of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists, a California-based Motorcycle Rights Organization, today announced that its New York attorney has sent a letter of intent to file a class-action lawsuit against NYS Dept of Motor Vehicles and NYS Police in response to a series of discriminatory roadblocks targeting motorcycles enroute to motorcycle-related events.

After a roadblock was established on NY's I-84 in Oct, 2007 which singled out motorcycles enroute to Cycle Sunday in nearby Danbury, Conn., motorcyclist's rights advocates learned that Federal Grant money was to be used to fund police overtime to conduct these so-called "safety checks" at motorcycle events statewide.

Despite talks between DMV and representatives of NCOM, the American Motorcyclist Association and other motorcycle rights organizations during the winter, the program is apparently going forward.

Last week, roadblocks were established on I-88 and the NYS Thruway targeting motorcyclists traveling to the American Motorcycle Jamboree, or AmJam, a 24-year old event held at the Cobleskill Fairgrounds. Promoters reported attendance at the event was down as a result.

Yesterday it was reported that a "safety check" is in effect on the Northway stopping motorcycles enroute to Americade in Lake George, America's largest touring motorcycle rally.

With the support of the AMA and various other motorcycle rights organizations, NCOM officials plan to pursue legal actions against state agencies involved in what they consider unconstitutional infringements.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Bob "Prospector" Boellner
NCOM Region VIII Director
518-239-4560