Counties Hunt for Fake Inspection Stickers

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ELLIS COUNTY, Texas - People who are driving with illegal inspection stickers could lose their vehicles. Those cars and trucks can be seized during traffic stops.

Ellis County Deputy Constable Brady Elliot has no interest in spotting speeders.

“There goes a 12-20-10 certificate that we’re gonna stop and find out why they haven’t had their vehicle inspected in quite some time,” he said. “Typically I’m looking for registration and inspection violations or counterfeits.”

Elliot is Ellis County’s emissions task force officer. And if he finds a car with a counterfeit inspection sticker he has the power to lock a vehicle up.

“These vehicles are currently in a holding process with the D.A.’s officer for cases that have been filed,” he said.

Surrounded by a chain length fence with razor wire is what amounts to the constable’s auto pound. Inside vehicles are now in the care, custody and control of constable Precinct 2 in Ellis County.

The vehicles will go through the courts and the constable will try to seize them because of their fake inspection stickers.

“A lot of people can’t afford to get their repairs done so they find a way to circumvent the system. Also, we found that a lot of times counterfeit stickers are obtained because they don’t have motor vehicle insurance,” Elliot said.

So how are fake stickers spotted?

“The color of the seal or something is different,” Elliot said.

And law enforcement can also use the North Central Texas Council of Governments database to determine when an inspection was done.

If you are not sure if your inspection sticker is legit, you can check it for free at www.mytxcar.com.

Read more on myFOXdfw.com: http://www.myfoxdw.com/dpp/traffic/counties-hunt-for-fake-inspection-stickers-031912#ixzz1plZEjeh3