1970 Seattle Police Satellite

This original 1970 Plymouth Satellite was manufactured at Chrysler's Lynch Road (MI) plant and purchased by the Seattle Police Department on April 17, 1970. During that year Chrysler manufactured only 53 of these "Special Order" police versions nationwide, with Seattle receiving 21 of them. The Satellite was considered a "mid-size" model and well liked by Seattle's police officers because of its maneuverability, comfort and intense speed. Equipped with a 383 cubic inch "Super Commando" engine and 4-barrel carburetor these vehicles could easily compete with the fastest cars of the era. Although the vast majority of Seattle's Satellites were unmarked for use by the Traffic Division during the daytime hours, the police department's "Tactical Squad" used them at night for criminal enforcement. Six of these Satellites were fully marked and placed in the patrol division (two in each precinct) to determine their feasibility for use in patrol. The unique blue and white color scheme was adopted in 1971 in an effort to assist in changing the public image of the Seattle Police Department. The 1970 Plymouth Satellites were used by the SPD until 1974.

The 1970 Satellite was so popular, police officials decided to order more of them for the patrol fleet. Unfortunately, the configuration and body style of the 1971 Satellite was completely different and far less popular than its predecessor. During its service to the SPD this vehicle (unit #521) was wrecked after only 9,000 miles and sold at public auction, eventually finding its way to the Los Angeles area 36 years later. The Police Museum located and purchased this vehicle in 2006 with restoration efforts completed in June of 2007. This project could not have been accomplished without the assistance and generosity of dozens of individuals and organization throughout the Seattle area.

This rare and historically unique police vehicle is a mobile component of the Seattle Metropoli-tan Police Museum and used to enhance positive interaction between the community and "their" police. This car is also used to educate the public by generating interest in historic restoration and preservation. For more information regarding this vehicle please call the Police Museum at 206-748-9991.

Vehicle #521 as it looked
in 1999

Museum President Jim
Ritter with SFPD Sgt.
Mark Hernandez during
the car's return home

Brent Michaels at Showcase
Auto Rebuild reparing the
rust and damage

Sean Callahan from Showcase
applying the first of the car's
2-tone colors "Glacier Blue"

Owner Randy Hubert of Auto
Interiors of Bellevue re-upholstering
the seats with original 1970 fabric

Special Thanks

Sponsors

Auto Interiors of Bellevue
3M Corporation-*Minneapolis, MN*
Northwest Sign Supply-*Seattle*
Officer Damon Deese- *SMPM, SPD*
Officer Jim Ritter-*SMPM, SPD*
Seattle Dept. of Fleets & Facilities *(Metal Shop)*
Seattle Dept. of Transportation *(Sign Shop)*
Seattle Dept. of Info Technology *(Radio Shop)*
Seattle Police Department
Seattle Police Foundation
Seattle Police Officers' Guild
Showcase Auto Rebuild-*Kirkland*
SMS Upholstery-*Canby, OR*
Chris Stone-Discount Tires-*Bellevue*
Teldon Print Media- *Vancouver, BC*
University of Washington Police

Athletic Awards-*Seattle*
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Hart Properties-*Bellevue*
Northwest Differential-*Kirkland*
San Francisco Police Department
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Wildcat Auto Wrecking-*Sandy, OR*

Auburn Sign Company-*Auburn*
Eastside Rentals-*Bellevue*
Kirkland Transmission-*Kirkland*
Romaine Electric-*Bellingham*
Service Auto Glass-*Kirkland*
Wholesaler's Northwest-*Burien*

Special Thanks-*Individuals*

Paul Adams
H. Clay Allen
Richard Amble
Doug Anderson
Jaime Bagnariol
Dennis Beard
Mark Blumenthal
Bill Boone
Carol Boone
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Tom Hergert
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Rhonda Hubert
Mark Hernandez
Bruce Ittner

Dick Johanek
Jerry Johnson
Ricky Johnson
Mike Jump
Gil Kerlikowski
Glenn Kerns
Clark Kimmerer
Curtis Ko
Mike Kolbet
Paul Kozelisky

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Tom Saunders
Don Skarr
Don Schmitz
Mike Severance
Georg Smith
Tim Smith
Tim Standberry
Judy Thomson
Erik Timothy
Rolf Towne
Ray Wittmier
Tony Wood
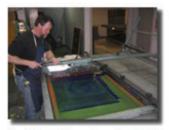Bruce Wyatt
Ed Yost

Tom Leahy of Seattle's
DIT installing the car's
"Twin Beacon Ray" light bar

Paul Kozelisky from Seattle's
DOT Metal Shop making the
shotgun lock bracket

Mark Haga from Service Auto
Glass installing the
new back window

Rob Ford from Seattle DOT
Sign Shop making the original
door decals

Michael Perisho
applying the final markings