

Michigan Attorney General Says Red Light Cameras Illegal

Michigan Attorney General ruling finds red light camera ordinances in violation of state law.

Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox on Thursday declared the use of red light cameras or speed cameras within the state to be illegal. State Representative Barbara A. Farrah (D-Wayne County) asked Cox to rule on whether a city could use home rule authority to issue photographic tickets. Cox found that state law established red light running as a criminal violation, so that any local ordinance declaring such a violation a civil matter would be "in conflict" with the law.

Cox also pointed out that state law authorizes photo ticketing at railroad crossings, but not red light or speed cameras. The legislators would have explicitly authorized red light cameras if they intended to do so.