

1915 Ford Touring built Feb 27th 1915

## Early Police Car & Digger Machine Gun

115,000.00



A very rare piece of Motor car and Police history is now being offered after being on display in a custom show room for 30 years in northern California and then purchased by the Fields of Thunder Museum for an additional 38 years. Motor Vehicles of the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century have become a great focal point of American ingenuity and creativity. These Vehicles, in the dawn of the great American industrial age, were responsible for great advancements. By 1915 Henry Ford had produced about 300 thousand Vehicles that changed the American landscape, base price was \$390 dollars. Its reliability and utilitarian use was unprecedented. With the World changing rapidly and WW1 breaking out in Europe by 1915 Ford was to support the war effort by building Ambulances for Europe among other Vehicles in the coming war years. At that time in America times were uncertain and crime and protests were rising. The 1915 Ford touring Vehicle presented here, was purchased by the Police department and set up for protests & riots including the day to day policing. This Police car is very unusually rare because of the hitched machine gun cart. Originally this was a military machine gun cart and was designed to be wheeled into place where a single gunner would sit and fire the machine gun through the shields rectangle open port. This Military machine Gun cart was obsolete by the military before WW1 and then sold off to state and local law enforcements such as this one.

The digger machine gun its self was also available to law enforcement and purchased for this machine gun cart which was then slightly modified at the time to reflect the Police department ownership by turning the army green paint to black and adding the Police P.D. logo's but still

retaining its manufacture Data plate. The cart has a trail and tee handle section that could be rotated 180 degrees upward to make it easier to pull the cart to its location and can then be rotated down again for placement by a easy access pin just under the floor. It also has 2 ammo storage boxes one on each side of the gun mount. There is a folding gunner's seat for the gunner which is attached on the trail and secured through a leather strap for travel. The large front shield covers the entire cart and machine gun for the gunner's protection. There is a rectangle slot in the shield for the machine gun to protrude through allowing the gun to rotate from left to right when fired. The carts wheels are steel hubs with heavy wooden spoke construction and steel outer tires typical of the period. The type of machine gun fitted to this cart was the standard 1895 30cal colt Browning automatic machine gun or better known as the Digger machine gun. The Digger machine guns were obsolete by the military and replaced with the M1917 30cal water cooled gun which were then used at the start of WW1. The machine gun cart assembly is hitched to the back of the model T police car through its heavy duty hitch mount designed for quick detachment.



The 1915 Police car its self has equally unique devices on it; this car was the first Ford to have Electric head lights but still retaining its kerosene side running lights and tail light. This model was also considered to be the last of the brass cars, the car fashions its all brass radiator including the head lights & running lights brass covers and various other brass components. Most police Dept's during the early years of automobiles preferred to have touring car's that could seat 4 officers to a police call the theory was it also would blend in with the other town cars making it a little easier to track down law breakers. This unique automobile has a special early police spot light that converts to an all red light by pushing a small brass lever forward

which moves an internal red ruby glass housing around the light bulb turning the inside of the search light totally red and then retracted to convert back to a search light.



There is a 12 gage shot gun and mount assembly in the front passenger side. This unit is all brass construction which holds the shot gun at the butt through a mating socket and also securing the receiver section of the gun with a 3 sided brass mount holding the gun in place and then a sliding rod is slid across the mount through matting holes to lock the gun into the upper



mount for travel. There is a Police siren that is mounted on the driver's left rear wheel which is operated by a hand lever in the driver's compartment identified by its red distinctive Knob. When the handle is pushed forward it runs the siren through a series of clever linkages placing the sirens shaft against the tire. The handle can also be moved back and forth in swift movements changing the sirens pitch to signal traffic or other police units. There is an interesting and unique prisoner leg shackle in the floor of the rear seat section. The leg shackle and its chain are stored on either side of the vehicles floor just under the front seat bottom through custom screened sheet metal pockets and are conveniently stored out of the way for normal passenger use. There is a main rail or bar that the shackle chain rides on so a prisoner can be chained and loaded from either side of the car making the shackle universal.



The Police car has its original painted PD on each side of the body's mid section in between the doors. Photographic evidence shows that the PD was short lived from about 1910 to 1918 when the word Police was spelled out on cars. The car also has the identification of CP 5 on each side of the body's cowl; there is a Police identification device affixed to the radiator with the number 5 further identifying the cars status.



Under the rear seat cushion is the cars storage box or trunk area. This box also held the dry cell battery to start the car when cranked. When the car was discovered it had a period wood Billy club, whistle and a few very rare period rap sheet cards from the Bureau of Identification Department of Police San Francisco found in the storage area. The Police car has all original paint on the body and fenders and still retains its original interior, and has period Firestone white gum rubber tires. The matched 1915 CA license plates are of yellow porcelain additionally all of the mechanical parts are original to the car when found there was little restoration done.

This is a very unusual find and fairly rare Automobile; The car retains its original factory paint and original upholstery.. In addition all of the unusual police equipments make this original police car a truly rare find today, The Winchester 12 ga shotgun is included as is the police Billy club, whistle and Rap sheet cards on criminals' all found with the police car.. The 1915 Model T was the very first Ford car to have electric headlights; the automobile headlights including bulbs and its wiring system are all original to the car and still in great shape. Added to its providence the car had been in a northern California car display for about 30 yrs and has resided in the current Museum for the past 38 yrs. During its time at the Museum the car was used for 2

movies including a sound track and was used on the Television series The History Channels episode Early Police Cars with Bill Goldberg the filming was at the California's hwy patrol training center in addition it was used for the televised Policeman of the year award in Corona Ca.. The police car is a member of the police car association of America. It is now becoming available.

. A fantastic rare display for show or drive.



Also included is an early hand operated Klaxon Horn mounted on the driver's side and very early first generation Speedometer by Stewart, that operates on a large sprocket gear mounted on the right front wheel. There is a tool storage box mounted on the right running board







Body Data Plate, located on fire wall



Brass radiator Data Plate



Coil Box Key Switch Assembly



Only Accesory puracsased by Ford / 2 Speed Rear end Rustal Corp



Dash and Firewall Assembly



Stewart Speedo Early Mfg



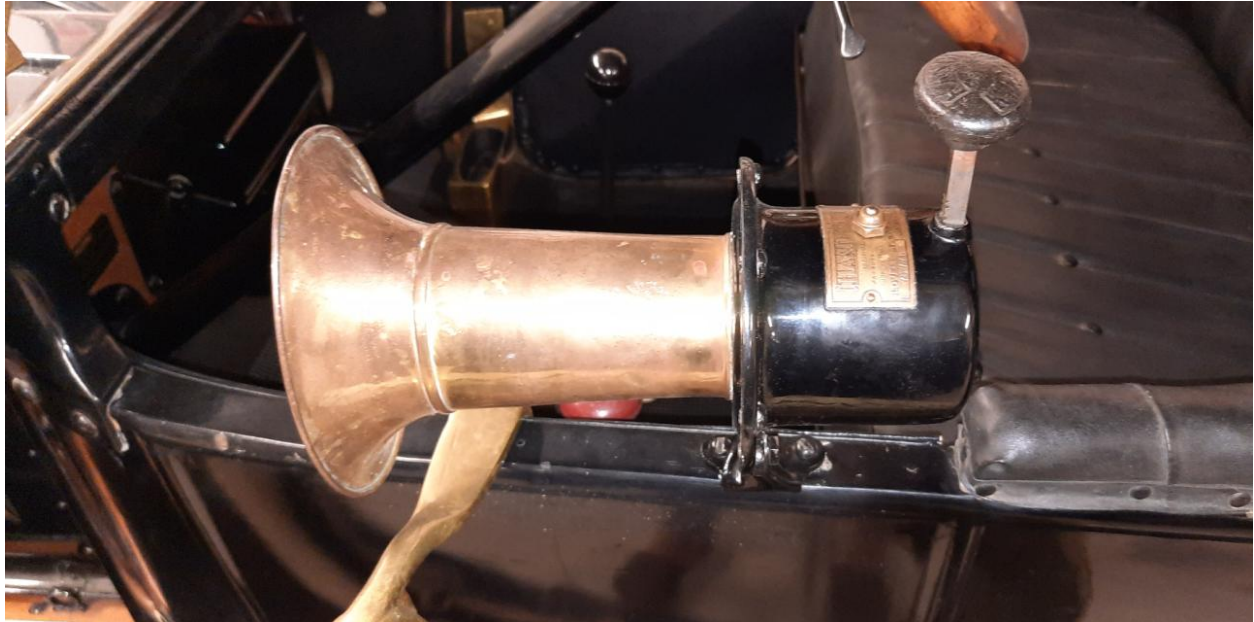
Stewart Gearing For Speedo on front wheel



Car Clock Waltham Mfg Dash Mount



Police identification Badge mounted to Radator



Driver Klaxton Hand Horn



Siren Lever With Red Knob identifier-1



Siren Lever With Red Knob identifier -2



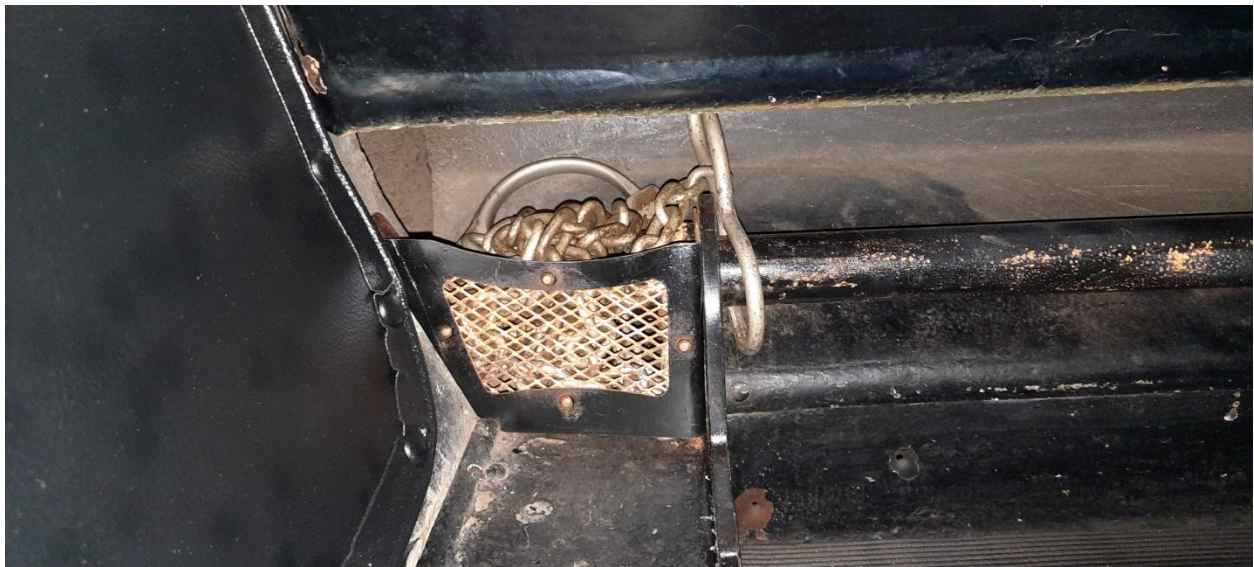
Siren & Mount Assembly on Rear Wheel



Siren & Mount Assembly



Prisoner Leg Shackle Assembly and Slide Bar



Prisoner Leg Shackle and chain Stored in side Pocket



Storage Box Under Rear Seat



Hitch Assembly Mounted to Rear Axle



Hitch & Cart Trail Connected



Original Firestone White Tires-1



Original Firestone White Tires-2



Shot Gun Mount With Locked Shot gun



Police Dual Spot Light & Red Stop Light



side View of Police Car and Cart in Display



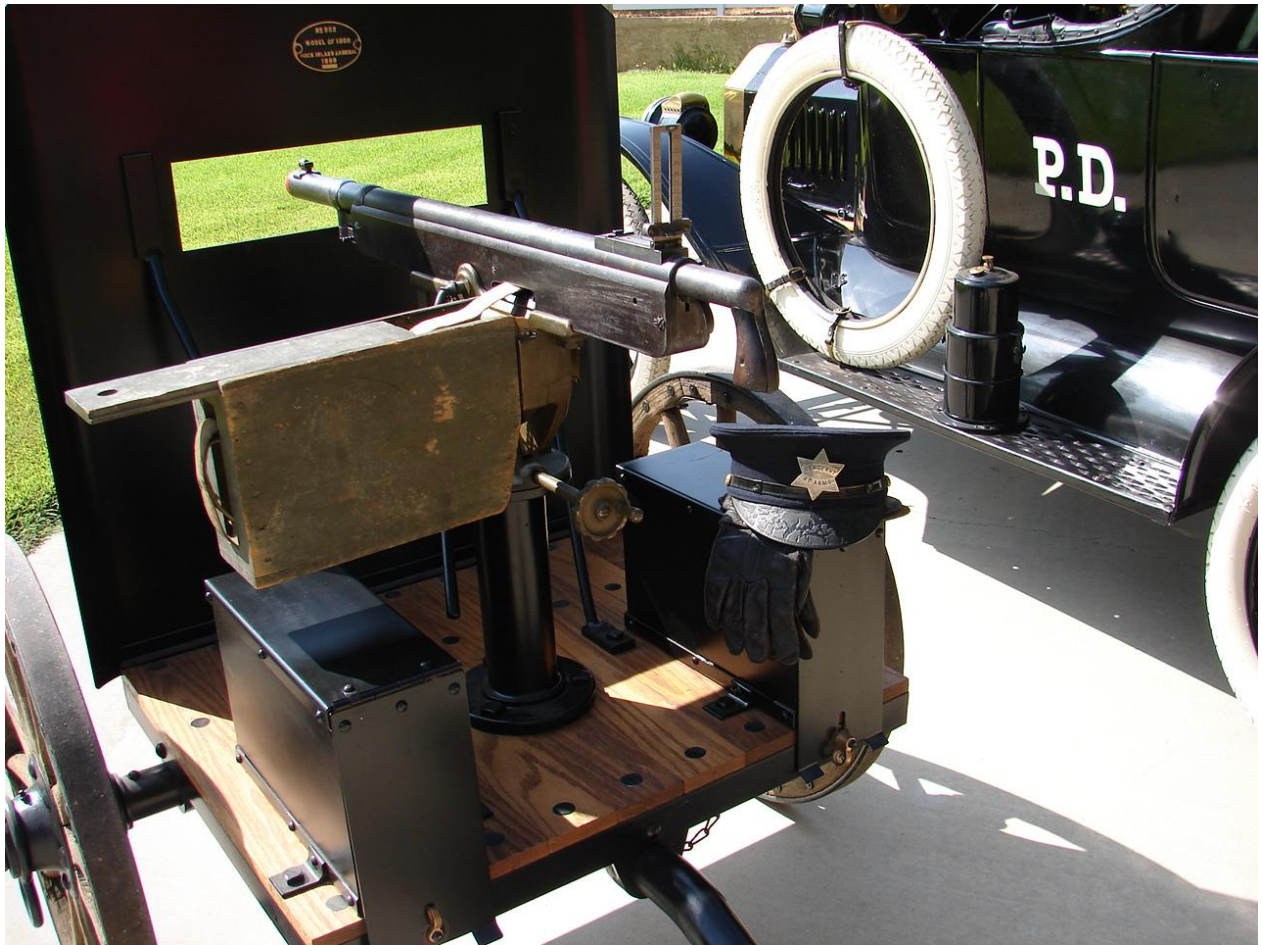
Front of Police Car in Display Note" Shotgun Mounted



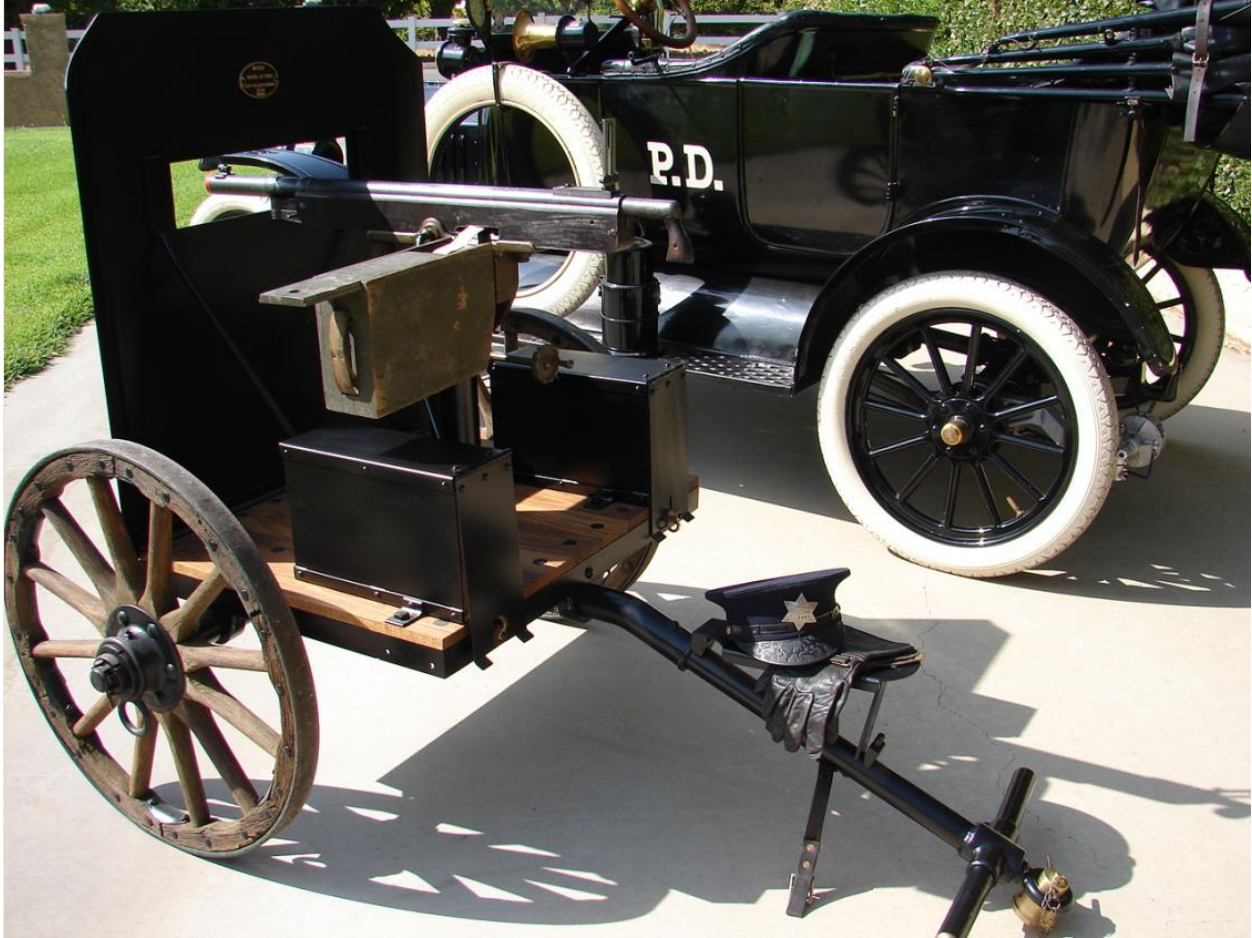


Police Car Rear View without Cart Attached





Cart and Digger Maching Gun Rear View



Police Car and Cart Maching Gun Ready for Action



Cart with Original Digger Maching Gun Mounted

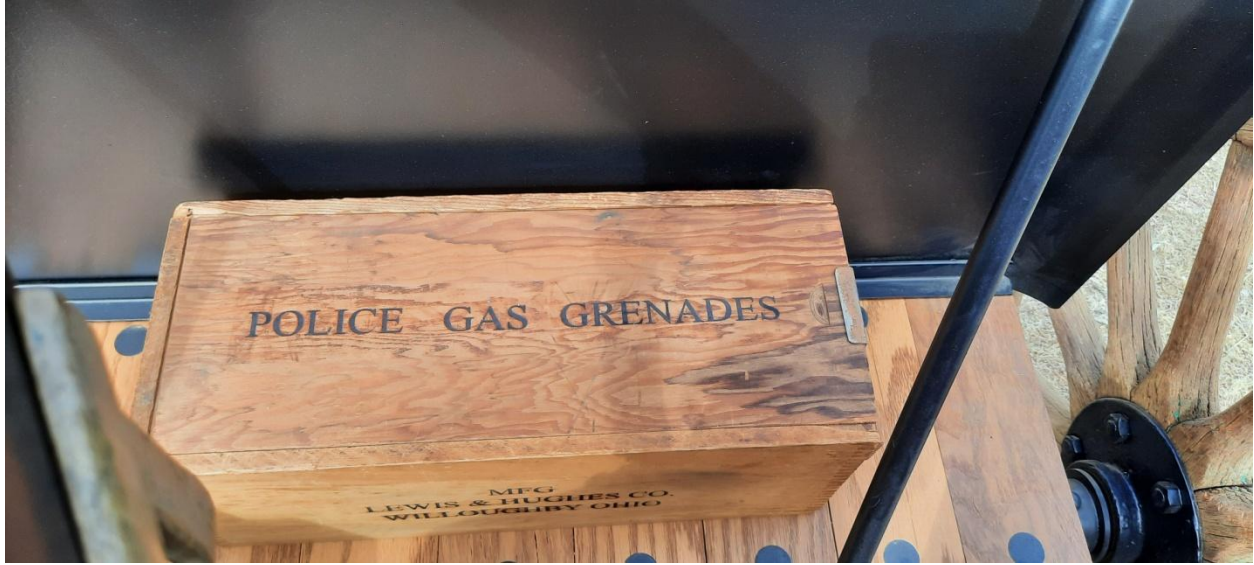


Cart with Original Digger Maching Gun Front View



Cart with Original Digger Maching Gun Mounted Gunner View

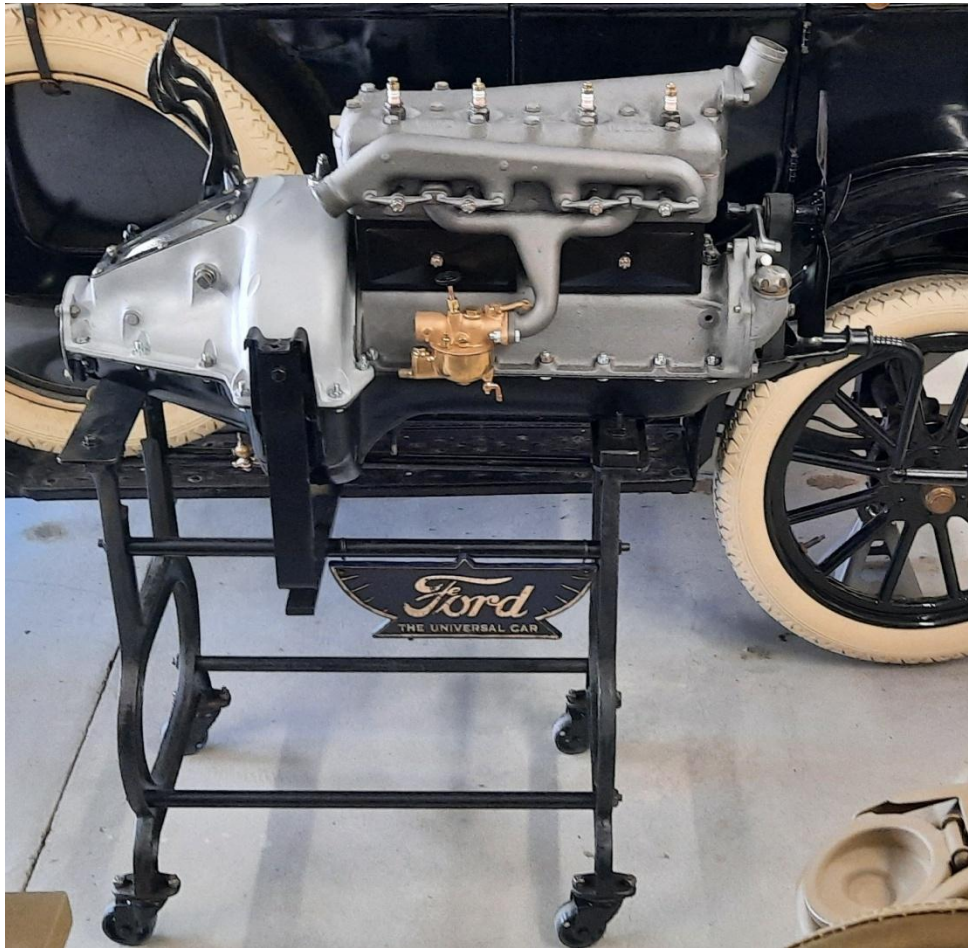




Police Gas Grenades box used to throw at Rioters



Window sticker identifying Police Membership



Additional 1915 Display engine on Ford presentation cart



Precinct No.5 Police Officers Showing Vehicles Circa 1915



State Police showing preferred Touring vehicles Virus a 2 seat Roaster Circa 1918

Height I M	64.8	Head lgth.	19.6	L. Foot	25.2	Color of Left Eye	Circle	36. Born in 18	
Eng. H'ght	54 7/8	Head width	16.0	L. Mid. F.	10.6		Periph. Z	Apparent Age	
Outs A. I M	55.0	Cheek width	14.2	L. Lit. F.	8.5		Grey	Nati	Ireland
Trunk	92.5	R. Ear	6.3	L. Fore A.	42.5			Pecul.	Salomon

Remarks inci  
to measurem



Forehead	Incln.	Nose	Profile	Ridge	R. Ear	Beard		
	H'ght			Base		Root	Hair	Ch.
	Width		DIMENSIONS			Teeth	Comp	Med
	Pecul.		Length	Projection	Breadth	Chin	Weight	150
		Pecul.				Build		

Description taken LOS ANGELES. 11-4-14 191

(OVER)

One of 3 period rap sheet cards found with car in the under rear seat trunk box

Height I M	68.1	Head lgh.	18.4	L. Foot	26.	Color of Left Eye Circle Periph. Z Blue Pecul.	Age 30 Born in 18
Eng. H'ght	5.5	Head width	15.8	L. Mid. F.	12.1		Apparent Age
Outs A. I M	72.	Cheek width	14.1	L. Lit. F.	9.6		Nati Penn
Trunk	90.4	R. Ear	6.3	L. Fore A.	46.6		Oc book

Remarks incident to measurements



Forehead	Incl.	Profile	Ridge	R. Ear	Teeth	Beard
	H'ght		Base			Root
	Width	DIMENSIONS			Comp <i>Sallow</i>	
	Pecul.	Length	Projection	Breadth	Weight 154	
		Pecul.		Chin	Build	

Description taken *July 14<sup>th</sup> 1914* *Jmel*

(OVER)

Height I M	73.6	Head lgth.	19.8	L. Foot	26.0	Color of Left Eye	Circle	Age	42	Born in	18
Eng. H'ght	5.8 1/2	Head width	15.4	L. Mid. F.	11.8		Periph. Z	Apparent Age			
Outs A. I M	78.0	Cheek width	14.9	L. Lit. F.	9.0		Blue	Nati	Indiana		
Trunk	91.0	R. Ear	7.2	L. Fore A.	47.3		Pecul.	Oc	Salesman		

Remarks to measure

Inq



Indy  
1873

DESCRIPTIVE

Forehead	Incln.	Nose	Profile	Ridge	DIMENSIONS	R. Ear	Teeth	Chin	Build	Comp	Weight	170
	H'ght			Base								
	Width		Length	Projection	Breadth							
	Pecul.		Pecul.									
										2. Chest	Hair	Thin

Description taken September 30<sup>th</sup> by Guest 1915

(OVER)