

“ PPP ”

People for Proper Policing in North Wales

98mph cop denies speeding on A55 in Colwyn Bay
MCN By Steve Farrell 22 December 2009

A North Wales police officer caught doing nearly the twice the speed limit tried to get off on the grounds 50mph signs were unlit.

Sgt Craig Jones was driving at 98mph when he was stopped but denied speeding, claiming the limit was unenforceable.

The organised crime officer was convicted by magistrates but is now to appeal – and his **90-day driving ban and £500 fine with £1000 costs** have been lifted pending the outcome at crown court.

Jones was caught on the A55 dual carriageway at Colwyn Bay late on April 1 as he took a prisoner to Caernarfon.

His barrister, **Simon Gurney**, claimed the speed limit signs "fall foul of the regulations" by being unlit.

Rejecting the defence, **deputy district judge Timothy Gascoyne** told Jones: *"I'm satisfied you were speeding on the night in question and the signage was sufficient to give you adequate notice of the speed limit."*

The PPP comments We are aware of two similar incidents on the A55. In one, A patrol car was caught speeding at 70 mph by a temporary GATSO within the 50 limit at Llanfairfechan road works. The officer claimed that the temporary signs had blown down. The PPP were informed that the driver had allegedly knocked them down after the event. Another Police car was seen to be exceeding all limits by a wide margin between Colwyn Bay and St Asaph HQ, the driver claimed they were taking a prisoner to the custody suite, our witness disputed this but no action was taken. In this case if the unlit signs invalidate the prosecution the ruling must be applied in retrospect to all similar cases. If a member of public had challenged their prosecution under similar circumstances, the specialist lawyers from CC Med Hughes Company ROAD SAFETY SUPPORT LIMITED would be brought in to ensure the challenge failed. See the PPP article here www.properpolicing.org.uk/articles/They%20are%20ALL%20making%20money%20from%20Speed%20cameras.pdf