

## Richy's Chaufer

Like most good agents Richy Crawford was known to occasionally bend a few rules in order to get the job done. And like the rest, he occasionally got into some hot water. But what happened to DEA Special Agent Richard Crawford in the mid 1970's in New York city is beyond a doubt one of the most humorous and bizarre occurrences in the annals of DEA at that time.

Trying to give his married partner a well deserved night off with the family, Richie agreed to meet one of his stable of informants alone. And when he showed up at the Manhattan bar, fully believing that he was only going to listen to a few tid-bits of narcotics gossip and gather a little intelligence, Richy was more than surprised by the fact that the snitch had a "bad guy" with him. A trafficker whom he wanted Richy to meet, negotiate with for the purchase of some "dope", and eventually bust.

Overcoming his dismay and seizing the opportunity, Richy got down to business. The informant had done his job well and Richy had little trouble "talking the talk" over what amounted to be more than just a few drinks. And when the night was over, Richy and his new "business" associate were pleased with the arrangement. In fact, the trafficker was lucky he still had his socks on when Richy was through with his "con job." But that's when undercover Special Agent Richy Crawford's troubles began.

Realizing that he was a little tipsy when he got behind the wheel of his G-Car, Richy decided not to take any chances. That would be wrong and dangerous to innocent pedestrians. So with all good intent, Richey closed his eyes for a few hours of sleep before making the long trip home to the Bronx. And that was the last thing Richy remembered when he was pulled out of the car by New York's finest.

New York is filled with low life's who will take advantage of any situation. And the sight of a nice new car with the door unlocked with the keys in the ignition must have seemed as a gift from above to one of them. The fact that its owner, who

probably had a fat wallet, was in deep sleep on the front seat only added to the irresistible temptation. However, the thief just was not content with driving his new car and the chance to "roll" its owner or worse. He wanted to have some fun first. Spying one of the city's many "street walkers," he pulled to the curb. And when she refused his proposition, he tried to run her over knocking over a few garbage cans.

As fate would have it, a passing New York City Police Car observed the disturbance and came to Richy's rescue. Typical of New York's over burdened court system, the charges against the thief, who from then on was known in DEA as "Richy's Chaufer," were mitigated and he received an enormous fine of one hundred dollars.

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