

A driver ticketed during a police stop in Crawford County last year has tried to get a state appeals court to throw out her fines. It didn't work.

Catherine Gotthardt of Westby was fined for failure to wear seat belts, and for failing to carry car insurance. Gotthardt said bad weather would have kept the state trooper from looking into her car, to see if she had a seat belt on or not. The trooper said he could see Gotthardt's passengers starting to fasten their seat belts just after the car was pulled over. Gotthardt also claimed that she doesn't keep car insurance for religious reasons. But the judges discovered that Gotthardt never brought that up in court, until just after she was found guilty.