

Ken Fetherston
850 Caledonia Avenue
Victoria, BC
Canada
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Mike Schultz
Victory Police Motorcycles
1106 N. Anita Avenue
Tucson, AZ, 85705

Mr. Schultz,

I just wanted to take a moment and pass along my thoughts on our fleet of 10 Victory Police Commander 1's which we took delivery of from you almost one year ago.

As you are aware, I have been fortunate to have served and instructed on a number of motorcycle platforms in my career including the Honda St1300, BMW 1150 and RT1200P, Harley Davidson, Kawasaki and now the Victory.

Words come to mind instantly when I think of our last year on the Victory are; Safe, Rugged, comfortable and unmatched in customer service.

Safe: I will admit that when I first climbed up onto the Victory I was a little intimidated by the sheer size of the motorcycle, having just finished a long career on the St1300, (10 years) however, that was quickly replaced by an overwhelming sense of safety.

The attention to detail with regards to officer safety is second to none. Our motor course has had its share of injuries and damage over its history and I can proudly say that on our last basic course our Victory riders received no injuries and our fleet did not sustain any of the damages that are typical during this training. Unfortunately I cannot say the same for the BMW and Harley riders that were on the same course doing the exact same maneuvers and exercises.

I was blown away by the crash guard system. These are crash guards! I have been on other platforms that have similar designs but lack the strength to actually provide real genuine rider protection. Victory crash guards simply put are indestructible and surround the rider ensuring a pocket of safety I have yet to see on another motorcycle.

The low end torque and unsurpassed low center of gravity also lends to a feeling of complete safety in slow speed maneuvers and also at speed. Instead of sitting on the motorcycle, you feel like you are part of the motorcycle.



Rugged: These bikes are Police proof! It is no secret that police are incredibly hard on their equipment from training to our everyday use. Our Victory fleet (10 bikes) has taken a year of severe training and duty riding and come out looking and running like they did the day we took possession of them.

We have several newer riders in our unit and they have definitely not been gentle on their motorcycles, however, our maintenance and repair costs have amounted to regular oil changes and two new tires that were through no fault of our own.

The ballistic plate that the Victory comes with lets us go places and do things that we never could have done on our Hondas without tearing the lower fairing right off.

Did I mention the crash guards? Well again I can't say enough about them. During our basic course we had one motorcycle that must have thundered into the asphalt 600 times. Total cost for repair, zero. Total injuries to rider, Zero.

Finally....5 year warranty. I don't know of any other company offering a five year warranty on police bikes. I guess unlike Victory they aren't as durable.

Rugged would be an understatement.

Comfortable: Like sitting in my lazy boy watching the Sunday game comfortable.

I used to enjoy riding my Honda for a portion of my shift, however, would inevitably end up doing stationary enforcement just so that I could get off and stretch my cramped legs and shoulders.

Everything from the seating position, leg position and handlebar position lends to an unbelievable sense of enjoyment. I now look for ways to stay on my Victory to conduct enforcement.

The gauges and control design are also unbeatable. On similar platforms I have found speedometers and warning lights that are down on the tank, forcing me to take my eyes off of the road.

Victory has a great dash that is easy to see with everything in my line of sight so that I no longer need to take my eyes of what is truly important.

The controls are also extremely easy to find and use even during the winter months when we are wearing thicker gloves....yes...it gets cold here...something you couldn't appreciate living in Arizona.

Mike Schultz
April 22, 2013
Page 3



Customer Service: I was initially worried that customer service might be a challenge as we did not have a local Victory Dealership available to us. I would say that not only was it not a problem but rather amazing in contrast.

We had a technical issue with the lights and sirens on our bikes which was not a result of anything Victory did, yet you flew your technician out to us the very next week to ensure that the issues were dealt with at no cost to our department. (The LED lights emitted an RF signal interfering with our radios; Victory replaced every one of them on all ten bikes and did all the work.)

Your company flew our instructors down to learn how the bikes are assembled and wired so that we had a working knowledge of them. The time and detail your technicians take in the design and manufacture is first rate.

I know I mentioned the five year warranty...but again...no one else stands behind their product for five years.

I struggle to find anything negative to say about this last year on my Victory but have thought of a few.

Notoriety: I can't go anywhere...ANYWHERE....without having to show off my motorcycle to the public, who constantly stop me and admire my bike, and tell me how much they like them. I can't even drink a simple coffee in peace anymore.

End of shift. Inevitably no matter how much I enjoy riding, my shift ends every day and I am forced to park my bike until my next shift. Enough said.

Sincerely
Kenny Fetherston
Victoria City Police
Vice President – Canada – North American Motor Officers Association