



OCT 12 2012

**TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Superintendent of Police  
Anthony J. Giaimo, III

1100 DuPortail Road  
Berwyn, Pennsylvania 19312-1079  
Telephone: (610) 644-3221  
Fax: (610) 644-5394  
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Command Staff  
Lieutenant Taro D. Landis  
Lieutenant Leon E. Jaskuta

September 27, 2012

National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration Headquarters  
Vehicle Control Division, Office of Defects Investigation (ODI)  
400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: POLICE VEHICLE (DODGE CHARGER) FIRE/EXPLOSION INCIDENT**

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to inform you of an incident which occurred on September 1, 2012 involving one of our police vehicles (Dodge Charger). While on routine patrol, our officer detected a "burning wire" type of odor and the vehicle filled with smoke, which was being emitted from the rear of the vehicle.

The fire quickly spread throughout the vehicle and an oxygen cylinder exploded and blasted approximately 50-75 feet away. The trunk lid blasted off, resting approximately 75 feet from the vehicle in the backyard of a residence.

Approximately \$15,000 worth of equipment and officer's personal valuables were consumed by the fire, as well as the 2011 Dodge Charger being completely destroyed. If not for the quick actions of our officer, this could most definitely have had tragic consequences for the officer and/or members of the community. This is not a risk that any police department wishes to take.


I am seeking your assistance in taking steps necessary to determine the exact nature of the defect with regard to this vehicle with the intention of alerting other police departments to ward off the potential for loss of life and/or property this defect may cause.

MC  
101212  
DW

I look forward to speaking with you at your earliest convenience regarding this matter. I may be reached at 610-656-0163 (c) or email at [agiaimo@tredyfrin.org](mailto:agiaimo@tredyfrin.org).

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony J. Giaimo III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Anthony" being the most prominent.

Anthony J. Giaimo III  
Superintendent


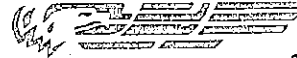
AJG/sr

cc: Mr. David Callery, Chrysler Corporation  
Ms. Mary Magee, Delaware Valley Health Insurance Trust  
Mr. Steven Weaver, New Holland Auto Group

**TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
1100 DUPORTAIL ROAD  
BERWYN, PA 19312

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PA 19104  
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