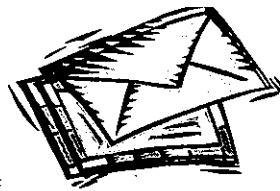


# NHTSA ccmMercury Routing Slip



CL-10481741-8365

Printed: 10/16/2012  
INFORMATION Redacted PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(B)(6)

**NHTSA #:** ES12-005645      **Rec'd Date:** 10/16/2012      **Referred By:** NPO-011  
**XREF #:**      **Doc Type:** CNG      **Doc Date:** 9/26/2012  
**Delivery:** MESSENGER ENV.      **Address To:** DOT/I      **Due Date:** 11/15/2012

**S10 #:**      **DOT/I #:** S 2012 251      **RMP #:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** LETTER FROM SENATOR MCCAIN ON BEHALF OF CONSTITUENT [REDACTED] RE  
PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED WITH HER 2012 NASH TRAILER (DOT/I#S 2012 251) NOTE: RESPOND  
DIRECTLY TO CONSTITUENT

**Ack Date:**      **Ack By:**      **Signed For:**  
**Sign Office:** DIR. GOVT.      **Signature:** CHAN LIEU  
**AFFAIRS**

**Cleared Date:**      **Cleared By:**      **Cleared For:**  
**File Loc:**      **XREF File:**      **Closed Date:**  
**Added By:** BMILLINGS x65470      **Modified By:**      **BERNADETTE.MILLINGS**

**Most Recent Comment:**

## Author:

The Honorable JOHN MCCAIN  
UNITED STATE SENATE  
  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
Tel: 202-224-2235 Fax: E-mail:

| Assigned To | Task        | Asgn Date  | Deadline    | Returned Date |
|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| NVS-200     | REPLY       | 10/16/2012 | 11/15/2012  |               |
| NVS-010     | INFORMATION | 10/16/2012 |             | 10/16/2012    |
| NGA-110     | SIGN        | 10/16/2012 | OCT 17 2012 |               |
| I           | INFORMATION | 10/16/2012 |             | 10/16/2012    |

ET  
101712  
TGW



**2012 Senate Input Form for Governmental Affairs Correspondence  
Control Sheet (I-10), W85-328**



**Control Number**    S   -   2012   251

**General**

|                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Date DOT Received</b>   | #####                               |
| <b>Date DOT Entered</b>    | #####                               |
| <b>Member's Date</b>       | 9/26/2012                           |
| <b>Member Last Name</b>    | McCain                              |
| <b>Member First Name</b>   | John                                |
| <b>Member Organization</b> | United States Senator2              |
| <b>Address1</b>            | 2201 East Camelback Road, Suite 115 |
| <b>Address2</b>            |                                     |
| <b>City</b>                | Phoenix                             |
| <b>State</b>               | AZ                                  |
| <b>Zip</b>                 | 86301                               |

**Constituents**

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| <b>File Name</b>     | [REDACTED]       |
| <b>Date</b>          | 9/26/2012        |
| <b>Subject</b>       | 23B Nash Trailer |
| <b>Action Office</b> | NHTSA            |
| <b>Action Code</b>   |                  |
| <b>Due Date</b>      | 11/9 /2012       |

**Contacts**

|                      |                                  |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>MemberContact</b> | xjp                              |
| <b>Phone</b>         | (602) 952-2410                   |
| <b>Pending</b>       | <input type="checkbox"/>         |
| <b>Closed Date</b>   |                                  |
| <b>Remarks</b>       |                                  |
| <b>DOT Contact</b>   | Maria Harrison at (202) 366-4573 |

**Notes:**

ES12-005645

JOHN McCAIN  
ARIZONA

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH,  
EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS  
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

# United States Senate

September 26, 2012

241 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0303  
(202) 224-2235

2201 EAST CAMELBACK ROAD  
SUITE 115  
PHOENIX, AZ 85016  
(602) 952-2410

122 NORTH CORTEZ STREET  
SUITE 108  
PRESCOTT, AZ 86301  
(928) 445-0833

407 WEST CONGRESS STREET  
SUITE 103  
TUCSON, AZ 85701  
(520) 670-6334

TELEPHONE FOR HEARING IMPAIRED  
(602) 952-0170

Robert Letteney  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590-0001

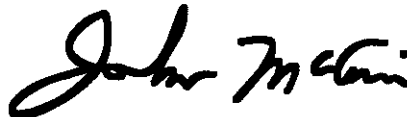
Dear Mr. Letteney:

I wish to bring to your attention a matter concerning [REDACTED] who has encountered a problem.

Because the situation is under your jurisdiction, I am respectfully referring this matter to you for consideration. I feel that this issue would be better addressed by you and request that you respond directly to [REDACTED]

Thank you.

Sincerely,



John McCain  
United States Senator

JM/xjp

SEP 25 2012

September 10, 2012

Dear Senator McCain,

I am sending you a letter that I wrote regarding a terrible accident that we had on our way to Flagstaff for the Labor Day weekend, Thursday August 30, 2012.

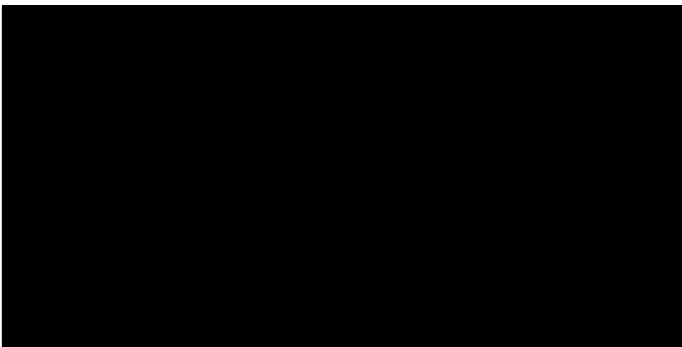
This is something that could have been prevented if the company we bought our trailer from had insisted on sway bars on the weight distribution hitch we had on our trailer. Our brand new 2012 Nash trailer has been totaled; we haven't even made a payment on it. Also our Yukon has over 7K worth of damage!

I know there is no federal or state regulation on this but there needs to be espically in Arizona. We were told at the accident by the ADOT employee that this is the same area that a DPS officer had died at mile marker 238 on the I-17.

Please read my letter and you can check the link I have included that showed the accident on channel 10. It was also on Channel 12.

We were told we shouldn't be alive! Please help me get the word out in our state to help save someone else not experience this nightmare.

Thank you for your time!



September 5, 2012

Dear Mr. McCain

Northwood Mfg.  
59948 Downs Road  
P.O. Box 3359  
La Grande, OR 97850

To whom it may concern;

I am writing this letter to let you know as a current/former customer of yours what has happened to us since the purchase of your 23B Nash Trailer.

My husband and I purchased a 2012 Nash Trailer on 7/29/12 from SST Auto/RV in Mesa, AZ. We had seen your trailers at a trade show up in Phoenix and it was the only trailer that my husband and I both agreed on from first sight. We were hooked. We waited almost a year to purchase to make sure our finances were in order.

We worked with the salesperson Scott Wixom at SST Auto/RV to make the purchase. We were so excited.

We got the trailer with a hitch and other accessories and picked it up. I should have known we were in trouble then when the guy, Dennis who did the walk through went at light speed explaining things. Scott had asked Dennis to help guide my husband out and he blew him off.

We owned a 92 Coleman pop up that we traded in and this was quite a step up for us! The Nash is double the length.

We got the trailer to the space we rented for it and could not get it unhitched. We called Scott and he walked us through it but my husband wondered about the hitch with the distribution bars. It was supposed to have sway bars! My husband ended up taking the hitch back to them because we found out it was used and parts were missing. Supposedly this was fixed.

We prepped all this past week for the trip up to Flagstaff for our annual family camping trip. This is when things got ugly! We drove to my brother in laws home in Phx and passed a couple of large vehicles on the way to his home. The trailer seemed to have some sway when we passed them.

We finally hit the road out of Phoenix. We were just outside of Anthem when we started climbing the 1<sup>st</sup> hill into Black Canyon. We passed a Fed Ex Semi truck and that is when all !@#broke loose. The trailer got pushed from the air of passing the Semi truck and started swaying out of control. I knew we were in God's hands at that point! My husband tried his best to keep the trailer on the road but it threw us around like rag dolls until it jackknifed and fell on its side and slid for a while, it flipped our Yukon into oncoming holiday traffic going southbound and pushed the rear of the truck into the air. We were only

Please read this letter I have sent to this Company. My Family was spared a horrible fate by God, but I am compelled to help others not to suffer a worse fate.

holding on by one chain! This one chain is the only reason we didn't roll down the mountain. One of the propane tanks was thrown into the back door of the Yukon and punctured the door. The weight bars were thrown off the hitch. It looked like a war zone. Our gas container for the generator was leaking everywhere, propane was leaking out of the tanks, water everywhere from the trailer.

See the following link: <http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/story/19421413/semi-rollover-at-i-17-and-milepost-238>

DPS showed up, fire trucks, EMTs to make sure we were ok. I had 2 EKG's on site because of chest pain. We were told over and over again we shouldn't be alive. The DPS officer didn't site my husband; he said you will have enough to deal with and pointed at the trailer and Yukon. The heavy recovery unit had to come and put the trailer back upright and tow it out. They showed us another trailer at the yard saying we were so lucky to be alive! They said the normally have to scrape them off the road. We got some of our gear/clothes out of the trailer at the yard looked like a bomb went off inside!

My 12 year old daughter was in the Yukon also when this accident happened; she only got a scratch on her leg when she got out of the car! Jesus had angels with us!

I am writing this so you know what happened and to also BEG you to do a couple of things for your future customers!

**DON'T SELL USED HITCH EQUIPMENT AS NEW!**

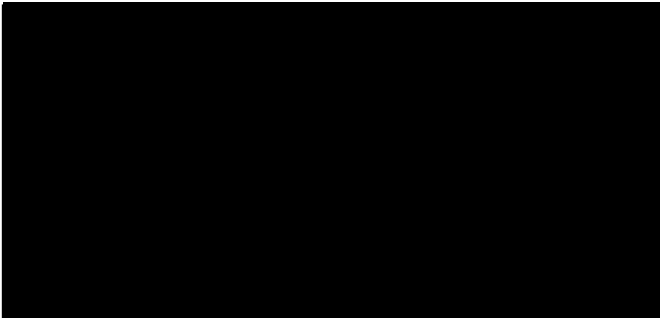
**TRAIN THE CUSTOMER! (Especially if new to towing something of this size!)**

**SELL HITCHES WITH SWAY BARS ON ALL TRAILERS!!!!**

Really what is a couple of hundred dollars in purchase of this size! We had asked for the sway hitch and got a used weight distribution hitch! My family shouldn't be alive but by the grace of God and my husband's cool head it is!

I know there isn't Federal regulation for sway hitches, but there should be! A copy of this letter will also be sent to the government officials here in Arizona.

Please be a company that puts there customers safety before the almighty dollar! Keep them safe and alive!



cc: SST Auto/RV

cc: The Honorable John McCain, United States Senator





# DPS: Phoenix officer killed in Interstate 17 crash

Posted: 07/26/2012

- By: ABC15.com staff

BLACK CANYON CITY, AZ - An off-duty Phoenix police officer who died in an accident on Interstate 17 north of Phoenix Thursday has been identified.

Sgt. Tommy Thompson with the Phoenix Police Department advertisement said Detective Peter L. Tuchalski was killed in the crash on I-17, just south of Black Canyon City, around 3 p.m.

Department of Public Safety Officer Carrick Cook said it appears a gust of wind caught a trailer attached to a truck, causing the trailer to hit a guard rail, then causing the truck and trailer to roll over.

Tuchalski is survived by his wife and their two teenage children.

He had over 15 years with the department and was assigned to the Family Investigation Bureau, responsible for investigating domestic violence cases.

Thompson said Tuchalski was a very hard working and dedicated officer who will be missed by all.

A woman and child passenger were airlifted to a Valley hospital with non life-threatening injuries.

Air15 video showed traffic backed up behind the crash for approximately six miles.

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Keith Sabia

My heart goes out to this family. The stretch of I-17 where this Police Officer died is notorious for bad accidents and fatalities. I was with my family in the traffic behind this accident. We were heading north on I-17 and we got stuck for over an hour about 5-10 minutes after the accident occurred. I have seen this before on this stretch of I-17 northbound which is just as you pass the Table Mesa exit and turns into a quick decline and if you are not paying attention it can really get you even if nothing goes wrong. It is dangerous for vehicles pulling trailers and any trucks. The decline is quick and the wind swirls in this area and I too have had issues while pulling trailers as I made my way north on previous trips. Knowing

this road real well and being aware of this sharp decline I purposely slow down before coming onto it whenever I drive northbound. Many times I have seen vehicles pulling trailers, campers and boats flying down this stretch of road only to yield to them and shake my head, knowing they are unaware of the danger. I have been traveling I-17 from Phoenix to Flagstaff for the past 20 years. There are times where I have traveled this road for work, 2-4 times a week and at least twice a month over that time. So I know this road extremely well. There are several areas that I am also concerned with and where this accident occurred is a stretch where I am programmed to pay attention to. I will never pass anyone in this area and always stay clear of any vehicle...more

User ID:<http://facebook.com/100000769353031>

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Donnie Wing

My Sincerest Condolences to his Family and freinds including those LE Family members..

User ID:<http://facebook.com/100000436192711>

Last Month

· Reply



Tommy Williams

R.I.P. Officer! May the family and friends be comforted in this time of extreme grief! This is a great loss to the City of Phoenix.

User ID:<http://facebook.com/100002823857918>

Last Month

· Reply



ARIZONA  
ABC15 Arizona

Phoenix police have identified the man killed in yesterday's I-17 crash as Detective Peter L. Tuchalski. He had over 15 years of experience with the department and was assigned to the Family Investigation Bureau, responsible for investigating domestic violence cases. He is survived by his wife and their two teenage children. (<http://bit.ly/QgV3LB>)



<http://www.facebook.com/abc15/posts/10150991136306...>



Carolyn Carter Foust,



Patricia Marks,



Barbara J West



Encinas,

Cher Kenyon,



Kriss Bond and 66 more like this.

User ID:<http://facebook.com/abc15>

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AZ Paul

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