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Di Camillo, Lawrence, R

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Plob-up truck on fite is delivency of residence. Fire extinguished and SFM #3 requested for the investigation, SFM #3 unevalleties and fire believed to be electrical in nature. MPPD units on scane and withide left with Owner (Netson) and MPPD.

FDA Failure & Damage Analysis, Inc.

February 9, 2004

Mr. Chuck Persinger Horace Mann Insurance 13111 Northwest Freeway, Suite 400 Houston, Texas 77040

Re:

Claim No.

Insured:

Subject: Report of Findings

File: 667

Dear Mr. Persinger:

On January 25, 2004, a car fire accident happened at the residence of on 1338 Scarcelo Lane in Stafford, Texas. A 2001 Ford F-150 auddenly caught fire white parked in the driveway of the residence. The owner of the vehicle reportedly heard an explosion sound coming from his vehicle. They reportedly called the fire department and the fire department put out the fire.

Failure & Damage Analysis Inc. was retained to examine the vehicle and determine the cause and origin of the fire.

In the course of our work, we examined and photographed the Ford F-150.

Conclusions & Discussion

- 1- The fire damage is consistent with the reported fire accident.
- 2- There has been over 10 similar fire accidents on the 2000 Ford F-150 trucks which have the same similar design as 2001 Ford F-150s.

3 Riverway . Suite 705 . Houston, Texas 77056 Tel : (713) 355-3775 . Fax (713) 840-8115 FDA

Failure & Damage Analysis, Inc.

3- The fire started in front of the master cylinder on the driver side underneath

the air filter. The cause of the fire is electrical. According to some of the reports it

is caused by a faulty brake pressure switch, which mounts on the front of the

master cylinder. It has been reported that although the switch blows a fuse, some

how the switch keeps burning and melting, unless the battery is disconnected.

The air filter above the switch starts getting hot and starts expanding like a plastic

ball till the fire reaches it and blow the plastic ball. The expanded air filter blows

like a ball as it releases the trapped air making an explosive sound.

4- A copy of similar fire incidents for Ford F-150 has been attached...

Our report is based on the information made available to us at this time. Should

additional information become available, we reserve the right to determine the

impact, if any, of the new information on our opinions and conclusions, and to

revise our opinions and conclusions if necessary and warranted by the discovery

of additional information.

Thank you for allowing us to provide this service, if you have any questions or

need additional assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely,

FAILURE & DAMAGE ANALYSIS, INC.

Franço F. Davati, P.E.

Consultant, M.S.; A.E.; DABFE

Diplomate, American Board of Forensic Examiners



Retirement Annuities and Life, Auto. Homeowaets and Group Insurance

April 20, 2004

Ford Motor Company Office of General Counsel Parklane Towers West, Ste 300 Dearborn, MI 48126-2568

Attn: Claims Analyst

FORD MOTOR COMPANY RECEIVED CLAMAS (1982) APR 2 8 2004

<u>NOTICE OF LIEN AND SUBROGATION INTEREST</u>

Subject:

Date of Loss:

1/25/04

Our Claim:

Our Insured:

\$18,301.56

Amount of Claim:

Dear Sir or Madam:

May Servolate Our investigation establishes that the fire which caused the total loss of our insured's 2001 F150 truck, VIN #1FTRW07W31K was caused by a faulty brake pressure switch, which is mounted on the front of the master cylinder.

Please accept this letter as notice of subrogation rights and communicate with us promptly. Please refer to our claim number on all communications.

Vincer ob

Peggy Camille General Adjuster Subrogation Unit

Horace Mann Insurance Companies

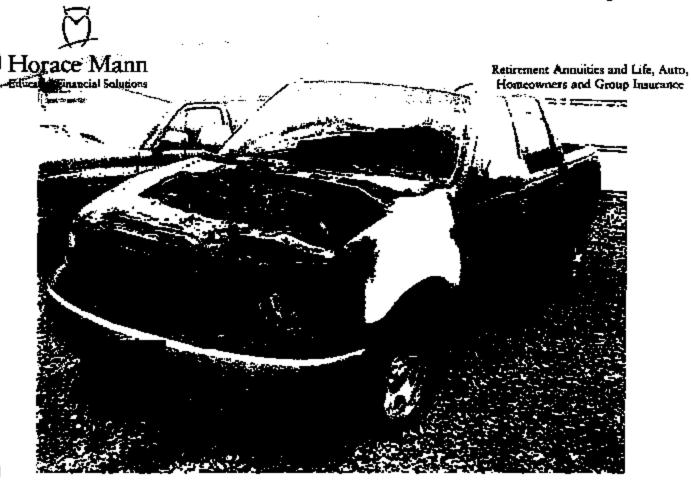
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1/25/04 54 1/50 1/10 (0) 1/25

The Horace Mann Companies 1 Horace Mann Plaza Springfield, Illinois 62715-0001 217-789-2500 www.horacemann.com



The Horace Mann Companies 1 Horace Mann Plaza Springfield, Illinois 62715-0001 http://images.copart.com/website/data/pii/20040124/0057539/PIX:9FG 4/





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Office of the General Counsel

PRIVILEGED & CONFIDENTIAL

Ford Meter Company Parkisms Towers West Suite 300 Three Parkiene Boulevard Dearborn, Michigan 48128-2568

January 11, 2005

MAK 0 3 1005

5 MAR -3 P12:20

Beacon Insurance Group PO BOX 97523 Wichita Falls, TX 76307 ATTENTION: ABBY MEADOR

Re:

Claimant

D/O/E:

Your Claim #:

10-24-2004

Dear Ms. Meador:

•	 We acknowledge your recently s 	submitted subrogation claim.	In order to assist us in evaluating y	our daim,
WO FO	quest that you provide us with the foll	owing information: (Please re	te that the information requested is	in regard to
the F	ord manufactured vehicle.)	•		

	X	. t.	Attack statement with a complete description of the incident, including events that occurred prior to and subsequent to the loss.
	Ø	2.	A copy of the police and/or fire report.
1	X X	3.	Original color photographs of the vehicle's collision/life damage & the alleged defective parts, from several different angles.
		4.	Original color photographs of the inside of the vehicle showing the steering wheel, dash and roof areas.
		5.	Original color photographs of the accident / fire scene from several different angles.
MONE	-⊠	6. 7.	Attach a copy of your expert's report and the expert's original photographs.
-	. 🗖	7.	Attach the repair estimate, repair order, or your total loss worksheet for the vehicle's damage and any losses associated with this incident, and copies of draft payments.
	Ø	8.	Attach the complete service history for the subject vehicle, including any rune-ups or oil changes. — See attacked Statement.
-	iom;	Please	e answer the following in the space provided. If you need additional space, please use the back of the
		9.	What was the city and state of occurrence:
		10.	The 17 digit vehicle identification number:NA
		11.	What was the mileage at time of occurrence:NA
Ţ.		12.	What is the alleged defect:NA
		13.	Has the alleged defective part been repaired or reptaced? (circle one) Yes on No

14.	What is the current location of the vehicle, and the afleged detective part(s)?
	Wester Auto Salvage in Big Spring, Texas 1-800-592-1444
15.	List all after market additions or modifications that were made to the vehicle:
	None.
16.	Was the engine running? (circle one) Yes or Wo
17.	Were the keys in the ignition? (circle one) Yee or No
18.	Was this vehicle purchased new or used: <u>'USEd</u>
	If purchased used, provide the date of purchase, mileage at the time of purchase, and from whom
	the vehicle was purchased May 2002, 20,000 miles, Cypress Ford

Once we are in receipt of the requested information, it will be reviewed and you will be notified of our decision concerning your claim. Should you not send all of the requested information and materials, we will assume that you are not inferested in pursuing a claim and we will close our file. Please note that your vehicle will not be inspected until all the above information has been submitted and a determination has been made as to whether an inspection is warranted.

Please be advised that all necessary steps should be taken to ensure that the subject vehicle and all of its component parts are maintained and preserved for trial. Ford Motor Company has the right to inspect the vehicle and remove and test any component part that you claim to be detective, and to be presented with the vehicle and the subject component part(s) at the time of trial, should ittigation ensue from this informal claim.

Please Note: If you propose to repair the vehicle for continued usage, such repairs may not be performed until after Ford Motor Company has inspected the vehicle and removed and tested any component part you claim to be defective or advised you in writing that it does not intend to perform such inspection and/or testing at this time. But even in that event, Ford Motor Company will insist that all components claimed to be defective are maintained and preserved for trial.

Stricerely.

Shawn L. Norton Claims Analyst / Utigation Assistant

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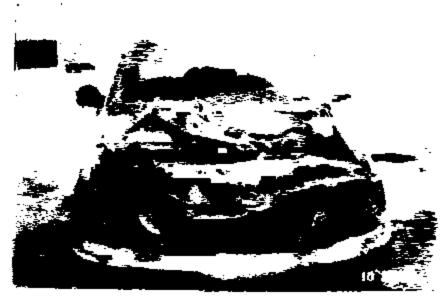
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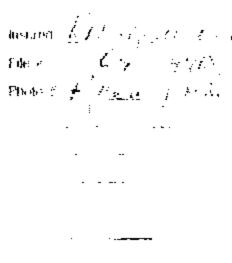


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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE AT KNOXVILLE

Plaintiff, vs. FORD MOTOR COMPANY, Defendant)))) CASE NO.:)))))				
COMPLAINT					
Comes now the Plaintiff,					
and avers as follows:					

<u>PARTIES</u>

- 1. Plaintiff, (hereinafter referred to as was at all times material hereto a resident of Knox County, Tennessee.
- 2. The Defendant, Ford Motor Company, Inc., (hereinafter referred to as Ford), is a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Delaware and licensed and doing business in Tennessee. The Registered Agent is listed as being: CT Corporation, Systems, 530 Gay Street, Knoxville, Tennessee, 37902.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

This Court has jurisdiction over this dispute pursuant to T.C.A. §20-4-101.
 Venue is proper pursuant to T.C.A. §16-10-101. The incident giving rise to this

complaint occurred in Knox County, Tennessee. Defendant is subject to the jurisdiction of this Court by virtue of Defendant transacting business in Tennessee and by committing acts or omissions that proximately caused damage in Knox County, Tennessee. The amount in controversy is greater than \$15,000.00

FACTS

- 5. A fire originated within the engine compartment of the vehicle, at or around the brake system master cylinder located on the left side of the firewall, between the engine and left inner fender.
- 6. The fire was caused by the failure of the electric/hydraulic switch for the speed control breaking system, and/or another malfunction in the engine compartment, causing electrical wiring and/or combustible fluids of the brake system to ignite.
- The fire caused damage to the vehicle as well as to an adjacent 2000.
 Chevy Cavalier and the residence of the insured.
- On or about December 4, 2001, and December 11, 2001, Traveler's made payments for the claim to the insured and the lieu holder of the vehicle in the total amount of \$28,019.10.
- 9. Travelers has become subrogated to the rights of the insured by virtue of the property damages sustained on or about November 26, 2001, and the payments and expenses

heretofore made, or to be made in the future by Travelers, and pursuant to the subrogation laws of the State of Tennessee.

COUNT I NEGLIGENCE

- Plaintiff reaffirms and reassexts paragraphs 1-9 of this Complaint as though fully set forth berein.
- 11. Defendant, Ford Motor Company, is now, and at all times mentioned in this complaint was, in the business of designing, manufacturing, constructing, assembling, inspecting, and selling automobiles, including a 1998 Lincoln Navigator.
- 13. Defendant so negligently and carelessly designed, manufactured, constructed, assembled, inspected, installed, and sold the 1998 Lincoln Navigator which Mr. Spath eventually purchased which was dangerous and unsafe for its intended uses.
- 14. Defendant was negligent in designing, manufacturing, constructing, easternbling, inspecting and/or installing an electric/hydraulic switch for the speed control breaking system, and/or another component in the engine compartment.
- 15. Defendent foresaw or should have foresoon that the electric/hydraulic switch for the speed control breaking system, and/or another component in the engine compartment could cause a fire in the engine compartment if not designed, manufactured, constructed, assembled, installed and/or inspected properly, and owed a duty to consumers or customers or other users to design, manufacture, construct, assemble, install and/or inspect the components in such a manufacture as to prevent fires in the engine compartment.
- 16. Defendant breached the duty to design, manufacture, construct, assemble, inspect and/or install the electric/hydrantic switch for the speed control breaking system.

and/or another component in the engine compartment in such a manner as to prevent their malfunction causing a fire in the engine compartment.

17. The malfimetioning electric/hydraulic switch for the speed control breaking system, and/or another component in the engine compartment was the proximate or legal cause of the fire and the resulting injury, damage, or loss to

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Count II Breach of Warranty

- 18. Plaintiff reaffirms and realleges paragraphs 1 through 17 of this complaint as though fully set forth berein.
- 19. Upon information and belief, Defendant expressly or impliedly warranted the electric/hydraulic switch for the speed control breaking system, and/or another component in the engine compartment, to function in such a way as to not cause a fire in the engine compartment of the vehicle
- 20. Upon information and belief, by edvertisements or other public statements, Defendant impliedly or expressly represented to consumers, customers, or other end users that the electric/hydraulic switch for the speed control breaking system, and/or another component in the engine compartment was safe to use and/or had safety features built in to prevent an incident similar to or like the one alleged herein from occurring. To the extent that Defendant tries to disclaim such warranties, such disclaimers fail under state law.

Count III Strict Product Liability

 Plaintiff reafficing and realleges paragraphs (through 20 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.

- 22. At all times mentioned in this complaint, the electric/hydraulic switch for the speed control breaking system, and/or another component in the engine compartment were defective as to design, manufacture, and warnings, causing the electric/hydraulic switch for the speed control breaking system, and/or another component in the engine compartment to be in a dangerous and defective condition that made them unuafe for their intended use.
- 33. As a direct and proximate result of the defective and dangerous condition of the electric/hydraulic switch for the speed control breaking system, and/or another component in the engine compartment described above, plaintiff's vehicle and residence were destroyed and/or damaged by fire and plaintiff's home, personal belongings, and furnishings were damaged by anoke and water used to put out the fire.

Prayer for Relief

Wherefore, premises considered, Plaintiff prays that:

- Process be issued and Defendant served.
- After discovery and trial on the merits, Defendant be adjudged liable and judgment entered against it and for an amount for \$28,019.10.
- Plaintiff be awarded costs and expenses of litigation as permitted by law.
- Plaintiff be awarded pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as allowed by law.
- Plaintiff be afforded all other relief or remedies allowable under law, that
 justice demands or that this suit requires.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry A. Craft (BPR #6056) Michael G. Sheppard (BPR # 19868)

Craft, Sheppard & Sitton, Attorneys at Law

500 Church Street, Suite 580

Nashville, TN 37219

COST BOND

I om surety and will assume all costs.

Michael G. Sheppard

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and exact copy of the foregoing document has been sent via U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to Ford Motor Company, c/o CT Corporation Systems, 530 Gay Street, Knoxville, TN 37902; on this 22nd day of December, 2003.

Robert A. Doll. Its

Travelers T

November 30, 2001

Ford Motor Co
Parklane Towers West STE 300
Three Parklane Blvd
Dearborn, MI 48126-2568

Our Client: 1

Date of Loss: 11/26/2001

Our File No

VIN: 5LMFU28L6WI

MakeModel: 1998 Lincoln Navigator

Paul Kasdorf
PO BOX 2954
MILWAUKEE, WI 533
Phone: (800)624-6007
Fax: (262)827-1938

DEC 5

DEC 5

Dear Ford Motor Co;

We are handling a claim for

who sustained a loss on 11/26/2001.

Our investigation reveals that you may be legally responsible for this loss, and we look to you to satisfy this obligation. The vehicle had just been parked and about 10 minutes later, fire was coming from under the bood near the power brake system. The vehicle will be a total loss and is being securely stored at Copart in Nashville, TN. To date, Travelers has not done any destructive testing to the vehicle.

The damage estimates are still forth coming, but expected to be around \$35000. There was also property damage as a result of the fire.

If you have insurance, please complete the attached form and return it to me. Please refer this letter to them immediately, requesting they contact our offices. Should you not have insurance, we expect payment from you directly. Please contact me to discuss repayment options.

Please call me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Paul Kasdorf

Claim Investigator

Enc. Insurance Questionnaire

TF - First Notice.doc

11/20/00 11/20/00



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14TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

VS. NO. 03-67

PARISH OF CALCASIEU

FORD MOTOR COMPANY

FILED! JAN 0 9 2003

STATE OF LOUISIANA

STATE OF LOUISIANA

STATE OF LOUISIANA

STATE OF COURT

SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING PETITION

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes

who in

supplementing and amending the original Petition for Damages in the referenced matter, respectfully represent the following:

т

By amending the caption of the Petition as follows:

:14TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

•

VS. NO. 03-67 : PARISH OF CALCASIEU

FORD MOTOR COMPANY : STATE OF LOUISIANA

FILED: _____ : DEPOTY CLERK OF COURT .

ĪI.

Fetitioners seek to supplement their original Petition by adding the following paragraph:

7a.

As a result of the incident described above, was required to expend a sum which represents his insurance deductible."

III.

Petitioners reallage and reurpe all of the allegations in the original Petition as if written herein in extenso.

IV.

Defendants have yet to file responsive pleadings, therefore Petitioners need not seek leave to file the Supplemental and Amended Petition for Damages.

MHEREFORE, petitioners pray that Defendant, FORD MOTOR
COMPANY, be served with this Supplemental and Amending Petition for
1/MODALY/001/1788/NAMENTAL SERVED SPECIAL S

Damages and be required to make answer hereto.

PRAY FURTHER for all Orders and Decrees necessary in the premises and for full, general and equitable relief.

By their attorneys,

STOCKWELL, SIEVERT, VICCELLIO, CLEMENTS AND SHADDOCK, L.L.F.

BY:

RANDALL C. MULCAHY (BAR #26436)

POST OFFICE BOX 2900 LAKE CHARLES, LA 70602 PHONE: (337) 436-9491

FAX : (337) 493-7210

14TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

vs. NO. 03-67

PARISH OF CALCASIEU

FORD MOTOR COMPANY

STATE OF LOUISIANA

RITTED JAN 0 9 2003

DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT

ORDER.

Let the forgoing Supplemental and Amending Petition for Damages be filed as prayed for and let Defendant be cited to appear and answer the Petition.

Lake Charles, Louisiana, this D

day of January, 2003.

District Judge

tractes terreb, Louis

PLEASE SERVE:

FORD MOTOR COMPANY through its registered agent C.T. Corporation System 8550 United Plaza Boulevard Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70809

.

State Farm Insurance Companies



July 19, 2002

PS). Box 11950 Montes, Lauteiane 71211 1-800-448-4525 Team 11 Fex 1-800-728-4083

Ford Motor Co. 3 Parklane Blvd. Ste. 400 Dearborn, MI 48125-2568

RE: Claim Number: 18-0637-416

Date of Loss: January B, 2002

Our Insured: Eric Buquet

FORD MOTOR COMPANY

AUG 0 6 2002

Dear Sir:

This State Farm insured's vehicle, 1995 Ford F150 VIN 1FTEX15Y58K was involved in a loss due to defective brake pressure switch. We settled a claim with our insured in the amount of \$9,438.15, which includes our insured's deductible.

Our investigation revealed the cause of the loss was due to defective brake pressure switch.

Enclosed is the documentation of State Farm's claim. We are holding the vehicle until we have concluded our claim with your company. You may contact me at the phone number below to make arrangements to inspect the vehicle.

Please consider this letter as our demand to Ford for reimbursement of \$9,438.15.

Page 2 July 19, 2002

In order to assist you in evaluating and processing the subrogation claim we are asserting, we may provide nonpublic personal information about our customer. We are sharing this information to effect, administer, or enforce a transaction authorized by the consumer. However, you are neither authorized nor permitted to: (1) use the customer information we provide for any purpose other than to evaluate and process the subrogation claim, or (2) disclose or share the customer information we provide for any purpose other than to evaluate and process the subrogation claim.

Sincerely,

Virginia Coody Claim Specialist (800) 448-4525

State Farm Fire and Casualty Company

ENGINEERING REPORT

A Professional Association

Fire Cause Examination on a 1995 Ford F150 Pickup Truck at Co-Parts Auto Salvage in Lufkin, Texas



Prepared for

State Farm Insurance Company Monroe, Louisiana

by

Ron McKinley, P.E. Engineering Design Consultants June 20, 2002

RECEIVED

JUN 2 8 2002

MONROE CSO.

Client Reference No: 18-0637-416 Engineering File No: SFM02-143D

ENGINEERING DESIGN CONSULTANTS

703 E. MARRHALL AVENUE - SLITE 4008 - LONGWEN, TEXAS 7560) (eco) 126-3703 Project Engineer: Ron McKinley, P.E.

Project File No: SFM02-143D

Address: P.O. Box 9210

Monroe, Louisiana 71211-9210

Attention: Randy DeBruhl

Client Reference No: 18-0637-416

Date of Loss: December 8, 2001

Location of Loss: Iowa, Louisiana

Insured:

Fire Cause Examination on a 1995 Ford F150 Pickup Truck at Co-Parts Auto Salvage in Lufkin, Texas

Assignment:

On June 11, 2002, I received an assignment from Randy DeBruhl with in Monroe, Louisiana. Mr. DeBruhl requested an examination on a 1995 Ford F150 Truck that was damaged by a fire on January 8th while parked. According to the owner, the truck was driven approximately 30 miles and parked. About an hour later, someone noticed a fire in the engine compartment and reported it. It was extinguished with hand-held fire extinguishers.

I was asked to examine the truck to determine how the fire began. It is being held at Co-Parts Auto Salvage in Lufkin, Texas. I traveled to their place of business on June 17th to begin my examination.

On-site Examination:

truck can be seen in photographs 1 through 4. It is a 1995

Engineering Design Consultants SFM02-143D

Ford F150 Pickup Truck with the Vehicle Identification Number

1 began by walking around the truck while viewing the external surfaces. The only evidence of the fire is the burned place on the hood shown in photograph 3. I opened the driver side door and found no fire damage to the interior (see photograph 6).

I opened the hood and began viewing the engine compartment. It can be seen in photographs 7 through 10. As shown in the photographs, the only fire damage is on the driver side of the compartment. The burn patterns indicate a fire that began at the location of the brake master cylinder. I viewed the damage up-close and found only the brake fluid reservoir and brake pressure switch to be damaged. The fire was extinguished before it spread beyond its origin point. This allowed an accurate determination of where the fire began. I traced the electrical wires connected to the pressure switch and found their insulation burned away but the copper conductors are still intact. The only other wires near the fire origin point are those routed to the hood light. They are indicated in photographs 18 and 19. I examined the wires and found their

insulation still intact with only minor heat stress.

The brake fluid reservoir is made of a polymer material and is melted on it top surfaces. This can be observed in photographs 13 through 16. The most severe damage to the reservoir occurred next to the pressure switch as shown in photographs 15 and 16. As shown in the photographs, the switch housing is heavily charred and is the most heavily damaged component.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration issued Recall

Number 99V124 for potential defects in the brake pressure switch (cruise control deactivation switch) for Ford vehicles built in the years 1992 and 1993.

However, the same burn pattern in other Ford vehicles built in years 1992 through 2000 have been observed. The defective switches have caused engine compartment fires.

Conclusions:

The fire resulted from a defective brake pressure switch. The switch has been problematic in causing fires in several model vehicles resulting in a recall.

The fire was discovered in its early stages and extinguished. This preserved the evidence that shows the origin point of the fire to be at the brake switch. The primary fuel for the fires appears to be the brake fluid once the plastic reservoir melts. It is a stated that two extinguishers were needed to suppress the fire.

The brake switch and related equipment were left in the truck unaltered.

This will give any interested parties their chance to view the damage.

Ron McKinley, P.E.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photograph 5 - Heat damage on hood.

Photograph 6 - View of interior.

Photograph 7 -- View of engine compartment where fire occurred.

Photograph 8 - Additional view of engine.

Photograph 9 - Passenger side of engine compartment

Photograph 10 — Driver side view of engine compartment.

Photograph 11 - Where fire occurred.

Photograph 12 — Closs-up of fire dumage.

Photograph 1 - Driver side view of Ford Truck.

Photograph 2 - Passenger side of truck.

Photograph 3 - Rear view of truck.

Photograph 4 - Additional view of truck.

Photograph 13 — Remains of brake fluid reservoir.

Photograph 14 - Additional view of damage.

Photograph 15 - Arrow indicates brake pressure switch.

Photograph 16 — Close-up of switch and reservoir.

Photograph 17 - Additional view of switch.

Photograph 18 - View of hood light wiring.

Photograph 19 - Additional view of wires.

Photograph 20 - Oil on dipatick.

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Preliminary Valuation Report

State Perm Insurance

1700 East College Street, Lake Charles LA 70607

Date: 1/15/02 Claim

Policy: Customer:

Losa Date: 12/4/01

Deductible: \$500 Payer Code:

Condition:

Valuation 10: 18-0637-41601

Type of Loss: D Classification: Total Loss

Assessor: Assessor ID:

Profile: State Farm

State: LA

Vahicle: 1995 Ford Pickup F150 XL 2D PkmpXCh 7' Bed 139" WB 4.9% Inj 6 Cyl

Type: Truck

VIN: LFTEX19Y58 Mileage: 137,913 License: Color:

N.A.C.A. © SOUTEMESTERN VALUES F150 PICKUP-VS STYLE SYRCAS XL 63/4'

\$10,075 Base Velme Hileage Adjustment <\$3,200> Air Conditioning Standard Standard Power Brakes Without Power Windows No Adjust Without Power Door Locks No Adjust Tilt Steering Wheel Standard Cruise Control Standard Without Electric Defogger No Adjust AM-FM Stereo Standard Nithout Leather Seats No Adjust Autometic Transmission Standard Without & Cyl. Engine Ho Adjust

Total Retail Value \$5, 875 Mitchell International Corporation warrants that this valuation is an accurate representation of the N.A.D.A.O value guide.

AVERAGE VEHICLE VALUE Taxable Adjustments

Taxable Adjustments Total

Pre-Tex Subtotal Post-Tax Subtotal 86.875.00 \$0.00

\$6,875.00

\$6,875.00

Non-Taxable Adjustments Deductible

Non-Taxable Adjustments Total

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Customer: ERIC BUQUET ---------

Impact Points:

NET TOTAL

Man-Collision

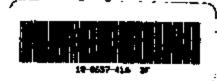


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FICK BRYANT District Atoms POURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT CALCASISU PARES



PROBLEM ROBERTO PROTABLEMAT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

TELECOMMUNICATIONS MEMORANDUM

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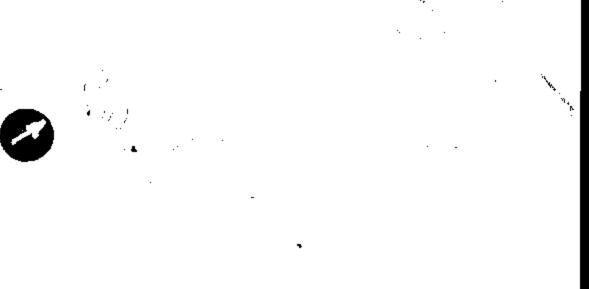
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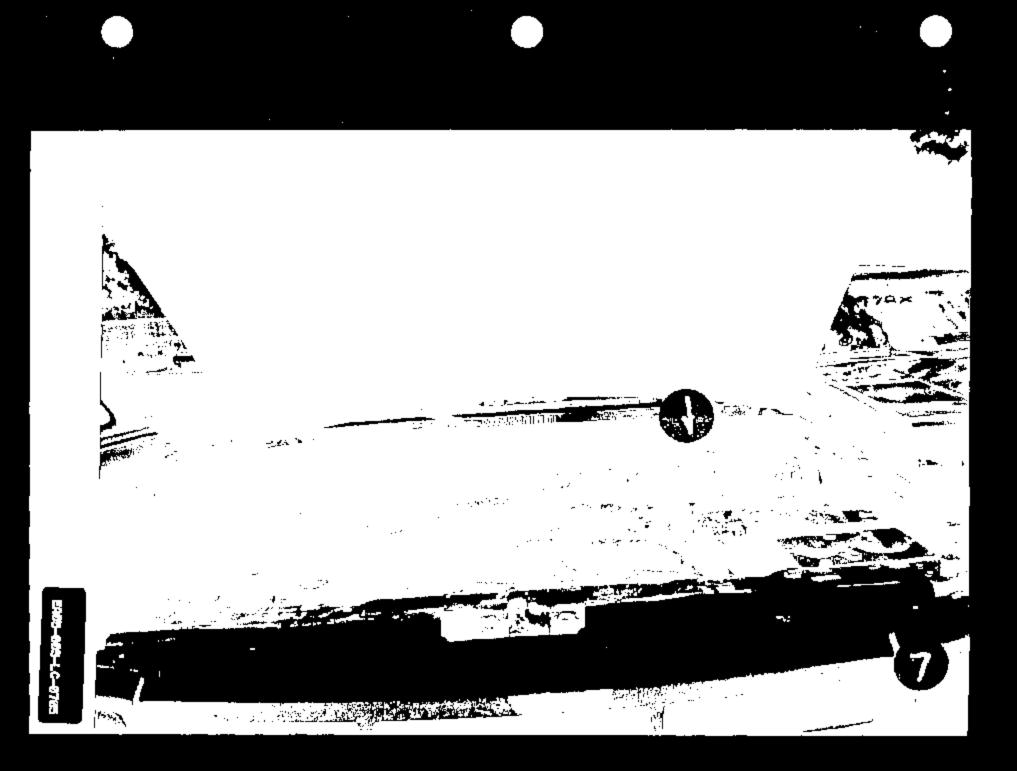






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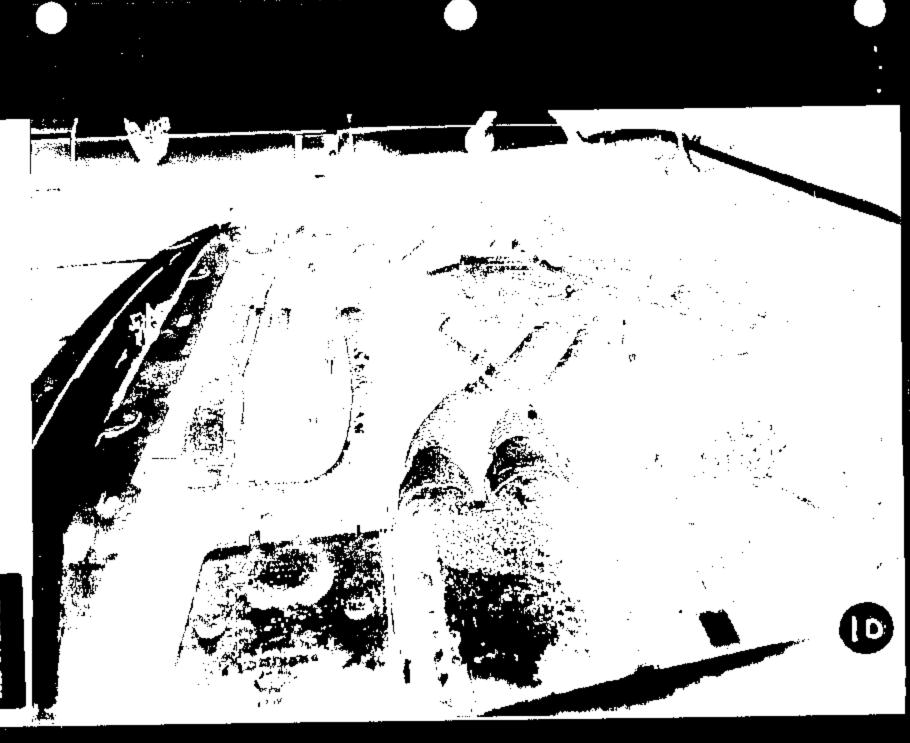


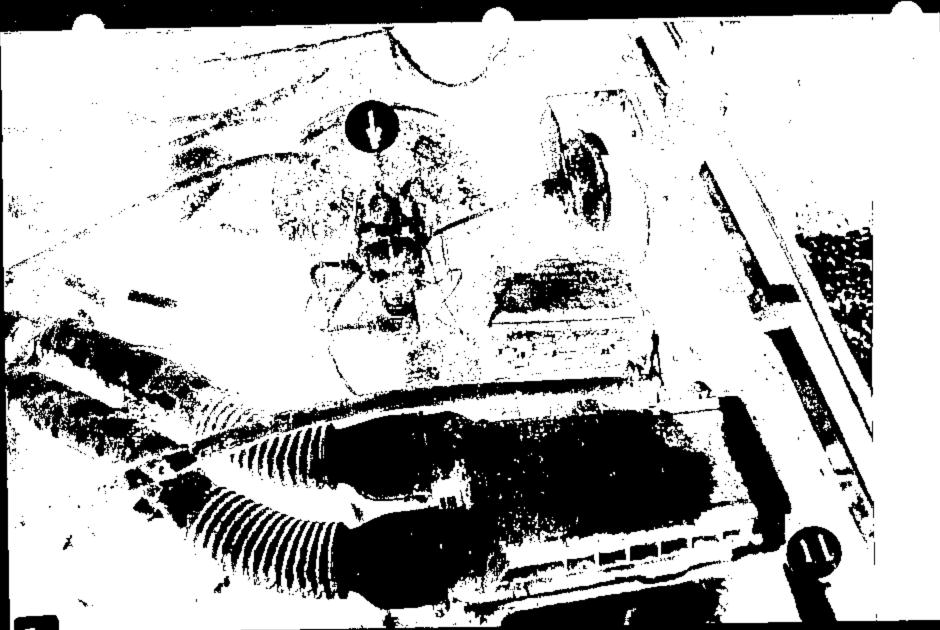




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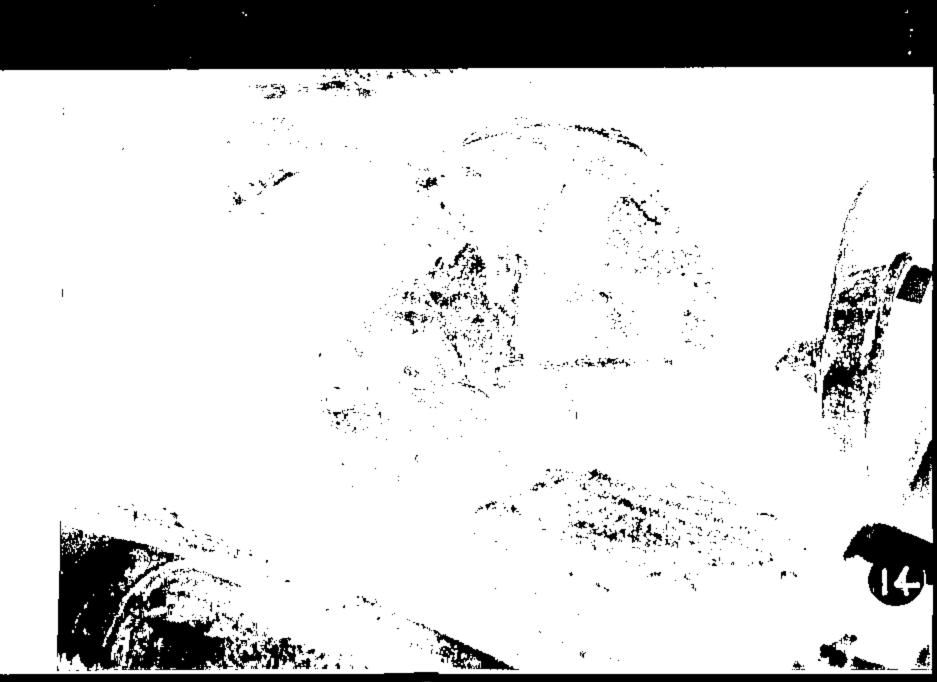




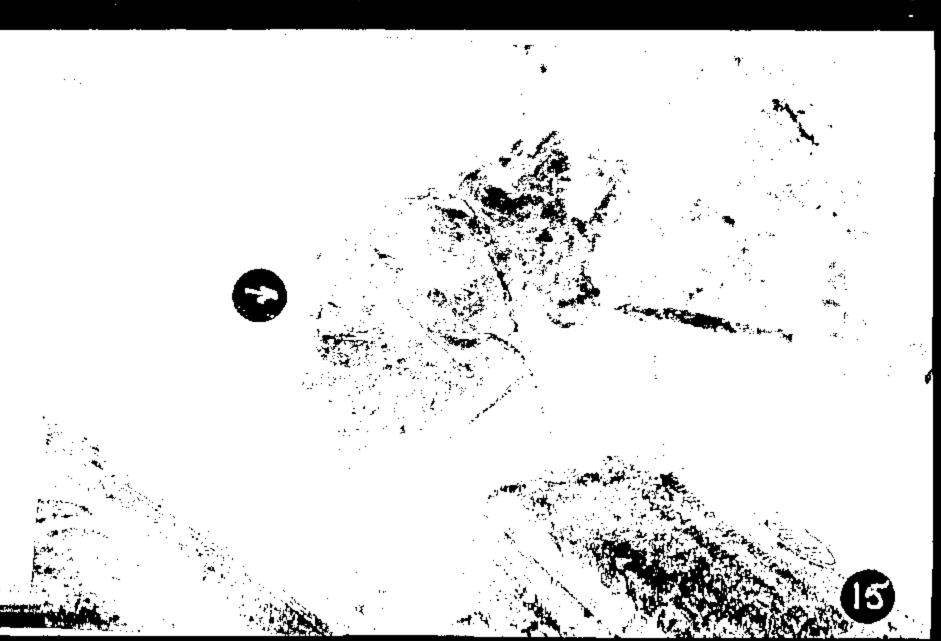


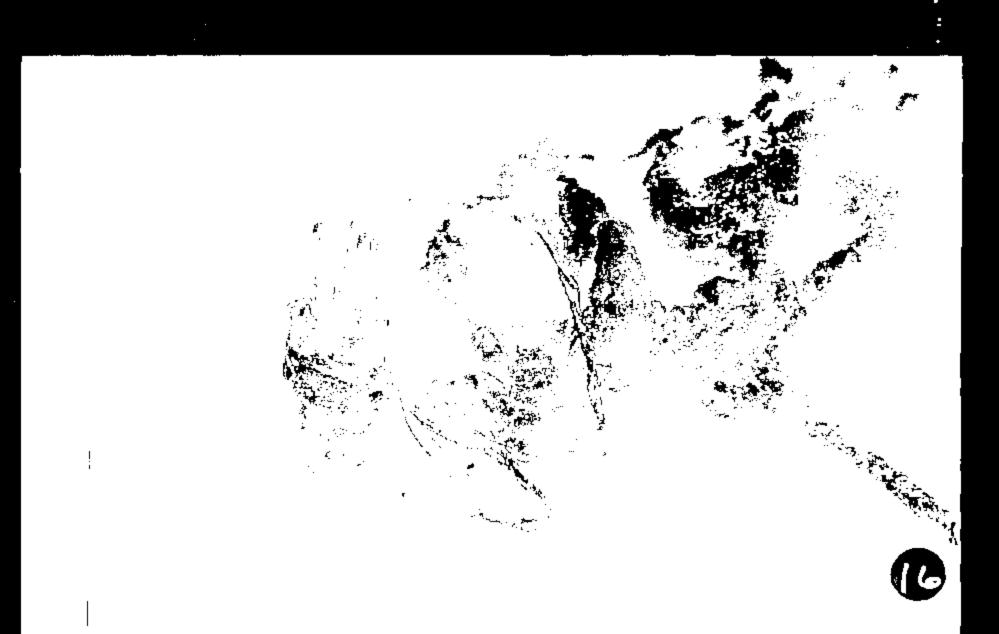


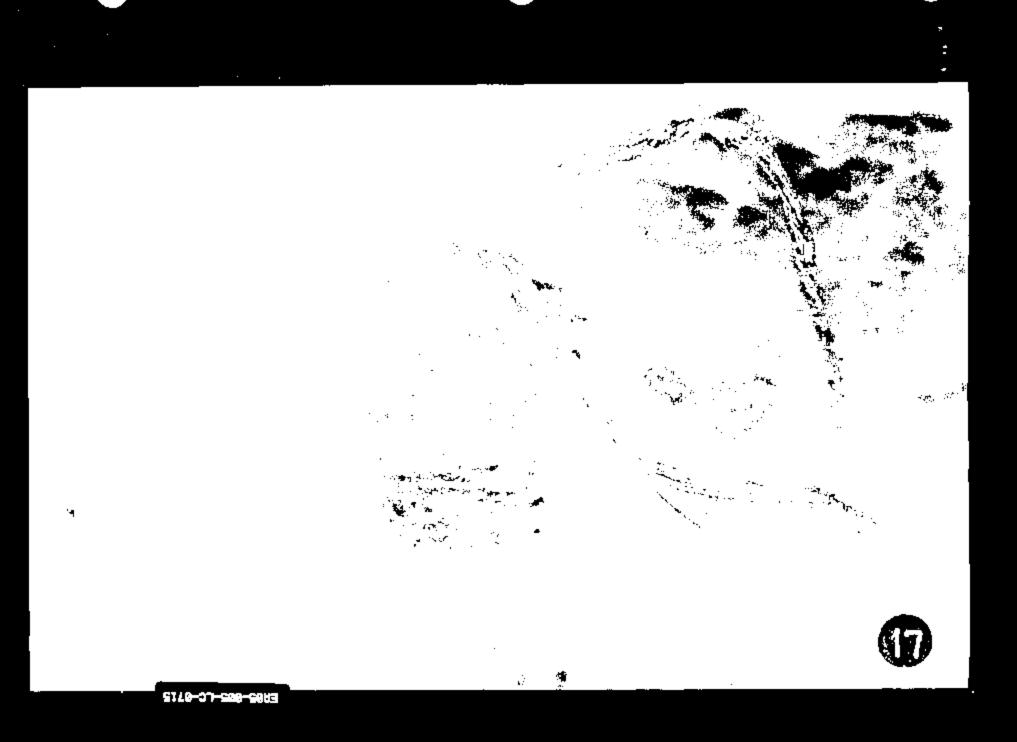


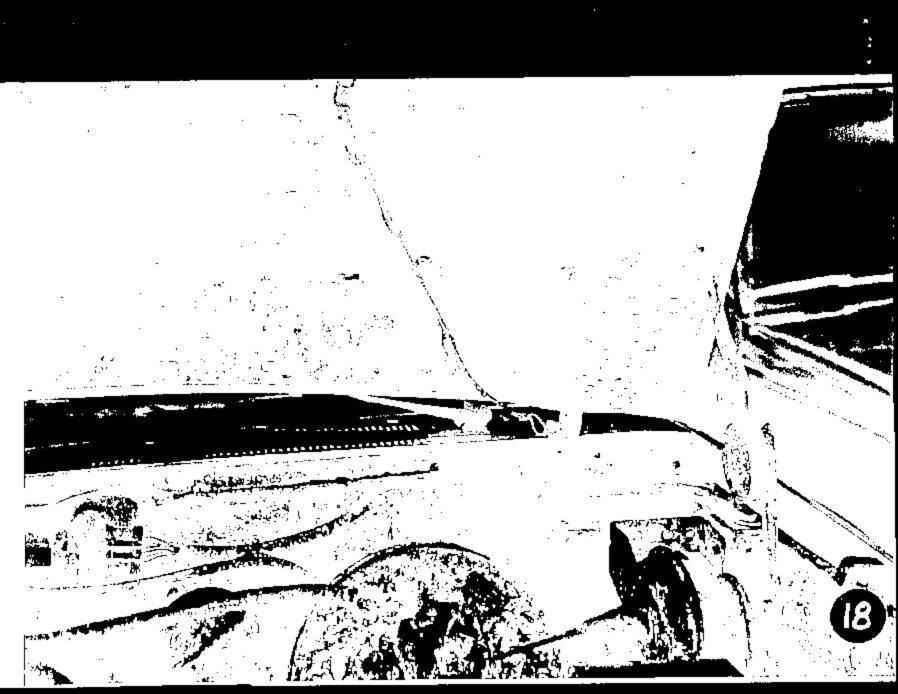


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VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

PO Box 40569 Jacksonville Florida 32203-0569 Voice 904.807.2500 Fax 904.807.2510

September 28, 2004

Ms. Shawn L. Norton
Claims Analyst/Litigation Assistant
Ford Motor Company
Parklane Towers West
Suite 300
Three Parklane Boulevard
Dearborn, MI 48126-2568

RE
Date of Loss: March 7, 2004
FFIC Claim Number: 00504130465
FFIC Insured:

Dear Ms. Norton:

I am writing to you based on our recent telephone conversation and your request for information. As you are aware, CRAIG/is, Ltd. represents Fireman's Fund Insurance Company ("FFIC") in pursuing subrogation recovery of insurance funds paid to as a result of the above referenced loss. FFIC did not insure the vehicle, but the property in which the 2001 Ford Expedition was garaged. In consideration of FFIC's payment in the amount of \$377,442.38, FFIC is claiming a total amount of \$377,442.38. FFIC is subrogated to the rights, claims and interests of against Ford Motor Company as the entity responsible for causing the loss.

As per your request, our investigation has determined the facts of loss as follows:

On March 7, 2004, the parage moticed a hissing sound coming from their garage. They looked in the garage, which was full of smoke, but they could not see a fire. They closed the door to the garage, contacted the fire department, and exited the house. The fire originated in the engine compartment of the insured's 2001 Ford Expedition.

Our experts have concluded that an electrical failure developed in the brake pressure switch of the Ford vehicle. This switch is used as a back-up device for deactivation of the cruise control system if the main brake pedal switch should fail. It operates on the same circuit as the brake pedal switch and is, therefore, always energized. Corrosion from leakage of brake fluid leads to either a resistive short developing in the switch or overheating of the cruise control module caused by the continuous current from the switch held in a closed position by corrosion damage. The fire destroyed the master cylinder into which the suspect switch was mounted.

PO Box 40569 Jacksonville Florida 32203-0569 Voice 904.807.2500 Fax 904.807.2510

It is our understanding that Ford previously had similar problems with the 1992 Lincoln Town Car, which led to a recall. Further, Ford is now having similar problems with Ford Expeditions, Excursions and the F-series trucks.

In light of the foregoing, we do not believe liability will be an issue in this claim. Enclosed please find the following:

- 1. Expert Report
- 2. Damage Documentation
- 3. Fire Report
- 4. Photographs
- ALE Documentation
- 6. Draft Detail Report

There were no "after market" additions or modifications that we are aware of. The engine was not running at the time of the loss, nor were the keys in the ignition.

This correspondence and all statements herein are in furtherance of settlement negotiations and as such are privileged and inadmissible. All information is provided on an informal basis for the purpose of settlement discussions. FFIC and CRAIG/is, Ltd. reserve all rights relative thereto.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your anticipated prompt resolution of this claim. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss this matter. I may be reached as follows: telephone: (904) 807-2583; fax: (904) 807-2683; e-mail: kvanderkolk@craig-is.com.

Very Truly Yours,

Kevin J. Vander Kolk Senior Associate



223 E. Gretobriar Lane Delles, Texas 75203-1913 214-946-8989 Fax 214-946-8586

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL

September 3, 2004

First and Final Report

PREPARED FOR:

Fremen's Fund Insurance

C/o Craig/is Limited

225 Water Street, Suite 1600 Jacksonville, Florida 32002

ATTENTION:

Mr. Kyln Fitzpatrick/Kavin Vandercolk

INSURED:

DATE OF LOSS:

March 7, 2004

LOSS LOCATION:

11 Wooded Lane

Allen, Texas

POLICY NUMBER:

Not Specified

CLAIM NUMBER:

UIS FILE NUMBER:

TX01-05895

THE REPORT PLEMENTS AS NEWSCALED AND COMPUTED THAT TO ACCOUNTING, PRESIDES TO ANY OTHER COMPANY, - CONCERN OR INDIVIDUAL SETTE BOLD EXPRONEMENTS OF ADDRESSEE.

Instruct:

UIS F0e No.: TX01-05895

ASSIGNMENT

The applyment was received March 8, 2004, and the investigation commenced this seem date. Instructions were to conduct an origin and cause investigation. This assignment was captuded to include UIS Mechanical Engineer Richard Schulze in review and examinant of the fire loss site.

<u>DETERMINATION OF ORIGIN AND CAUSE</u>

This fire was accidental in nature. Burning first occurred in the viginity of the master brake cylinder housing located in the left side portion of the engine computations. The cause was due to overheating and failure of the brake pressure switch of the brake guester cylinder essentially.

Information and factors available to establish origin:

- 1. Area of greatest fire demage
- 2. Patterns of flame second
- 3. Area of lowest burn

Information and factors available to establish cause:

- 1. Single area of origin.
- 2. No wustel accelerated hum
- 3. Focused heat damage to broke mester cylinder assembly
- 4. No other heat or ignition source found

Property owners were present at the fire loss afte during the initial portions of this exercination. UIS Engineer Richard Schulze assisted in the completion of this teview. A subsequent review of the fire scene was conducted by Mr. Larry Hollon of Newell Investigative Services, Inc. based out of Gainerville, GA. He was possent representing the interests of the Ford Motor Company. Compared Installation Manager Eric Young and Amociate Council Kevin McGraw attended this subsequent even representing the interests of Protection One Alam Systems.

The structure involved in this fire loss was a two-story, wood frame end stude slding home taving a composition roof and a slab foundation with the main entrance facing in a southerly direction. The home was located on the north side of the cul-de-sac enting to the cast/west cusping routhway.

No adverse conditions were encountered during this enem, and a thorough review of the fire loss was conducted. Attentions to the fire some consisted of minor overhead of debris in the north control garage area with the main door pulled down off of the mounting brackets. This damage was conducted during suppression duties of fire personnel.

Insued:

UIS File No.: TXD1-05895

Exterior conditions of the home manifested asbetantial heat and fire vent damage issuing our of the scalar cutry doorway to the garage along the eastern exterior wall of the home. No other obvious fire damage was noted to the exterior portions of the structure.

All doors and windows appeared secure manifesting no obvious signs of prior forcible entry.

The garage and living portions of the bosse appeared well furnished with items and contents that were consistent with a residential occupancy. Evidence of prior removal of items was not found.

Evidence listed in the origin and cause caption of this report reveal burning first occurred in the left side of the engine compartment involving the brake pressure switch and associated wiring. Planes spread from this device to the adjacent brake master cylinder reservoir. This plastic container eventually was compromised causing braking brake fluid to spread over a substitution portion of the left side threwall and fender well of the vehicle. At this point in the burning, fismes spread interelly sureas bases, plastic moldings and other combustible material throughout the stagent compartment.

Fire year demage was noted to the front grill and left side when well and fender of the vehicle Plantes wasted out of the left and front side, then igniting wood shelving in the western portion of the garage. Other combustible materials were ignited along the south side of the garage with eventual venting out of the garage door. Most of the garage and vehicle were involved with flames when suppression efforts of the fire department were instituted. At some point in the burning, the gasoline feel tank of the vehicle was ruptured adding to the total flat load and burn of this fire.

Fire verted not the top portion of the gazage door caused extensive heat and fire damage to the mesonry stucce giding along the eastern portion of the house extending upward to the second floor routline. This damage was limited to the invelotion autorials and siding with most of the fluming lotact.

Careful review of the fire loss did not reveal any evidence of multiple points of origin or unexpected or unusual accelerated burn. All documented finds and circumstances are consistent with failure of the vehicle's brake pressure switch, which was the ignition source and cause for this fire.

The house was protected by a home security system provided by the Protection One Alarm Services.

It should be noted that the garage was not covered by any hest or smoke detaction agreers. This niceumstance allowed substantial heat and finne build up within the garage before discovery by the homeowners from and the same build up within the garage before discovery by Protection of heat and smoke sensors in the garage could have limited property damage due to certify detection of this fire.

Insured:

UIS File No.: TX01-05895

DIVESTIGATION

Discovery

Property owners stated that on the morning of the fire, she anticed a strange hissing sound, which seemed to be examining from the kitchest area of the home. As she tried to determine the location of this strange noise, she then heard several loud thungs and booms coming from the surage. She then prefiled the aroars of smake and imprediately elerted her husband who was in their upstains bedroom. The same to the garage outry door and upon opening it was met with a tremendous amount of heat and smake. He shammed the door shut and then yelled to his wife and son to get out of the house that it was on fire. They all fled the house and dialed 9-1-1 on a cell phone to report the fire.

entimentation further related that the last time the vehicle was driven was on Saturday night at approximately 19:20 p.m. His wife had recently had a problem getting it out of park and the cruise control would not work. A worker from his construction business looked at the vehicle and determined that a blown fose was the problem and replaced it. This was sometime a week before the fire and everything seemed to be in order after the blown fisse was changed.

Fire Officials

Allen Fire Department Investigator Brien Roach stated that the call for align was received at 10:53 a.m. on March 7, 2004. Response to the fire scote was conducted with no unusual difficulties and that no adverse weather conditions were encountered in this response. Utilis arrived on location approximately six minutes after the starm reporting prooks and fire issuing from the gauge of the bome.

The fire was extinguished with no unusual difficulties with two pre-connected 1%-lock fire head lines. Fire damage was limited to the interior portions of the garage and exterior siding shows the surface entry doorway.

investigator Brian Reach further stated that the cause for the fire was undetermined at this time but that no intentional or criminal set is suspected.

A copy of the Allen Fire Incident Report was obtained and is included as an exhibit in this report.

COMMENTS

Personn to your instructions by phone, no additional work will be conducted on this assignment at this time, and our file will be placed inective. Please call us if you have any additional questions or further suspenses requests.

Instruct:

UIS File No.: TX01-05895

EXHIBITS

- Property Description Sheet.
- 2. Allen Fire Incident Report
- 3.
- Fire Scene Sign in Short
 Copy of the evidence transmitted abouts page 1 & 2
 One diagram with overlay
- **5**.
- б. L10 calor photo
- Photograph negatives mailed under superate cover

Richard Taylor Special Investigator Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc. 214-946-8989 or 800-615-4840

Insured:

UIS File No.: TX01-05895

PHOTO EXPLANATION SHEET

- 1. North exterior portion of yard facing south towards near of home
- 2. Rear dwelling enclosure
- 3. Rour steps and entry into the north portion of the home facing south
- 4. Rear portion of home feeing south
- 5. Western rear section of home facing south
- 6. Pool house facing north
- 7. Pool house facing west
- Western portion of home facing ports.
- Eastern cotetion well showing meter hox and natural gas service.
- 10. Quarterity view of photo 9
- 11. Northeastern enterior corner of home
- 12. Southeastern cutarior namer of home facing northwest
- 13. Gerage entry door facing west from driveway
- 14. Northern everview of garage door
- 15. Imposing view of nurthern end of garage door
- 16. Southern cod of gazage door showing heat stress along south end
- 17. Close up of heat stress on anoth upper portion of garage door
- 18. Apposing view of south end of garage door
- 19. Gazage door removed and overview of entire door
- 20. Southern end of garage entry facing southwest
- 21. Southern end of garage entry doorway facing south
- 22. Rear overview of vehicle facing west
- 23. Fire damaged vehicle license plate close up
- 24. Southeastern corner of garage ceiling facing southwest
- 25. Wall view of photo 24
- 26. Floor view of 25
- 27. Southern and of garage facing west from doorway
- 28. Southern well overview facing west southwest.
- 29. Wall and floor view of southern end of garage facing west
- 30. Close up of southwestern constr of garage
- 31. Floor view of photo 30
- 32. Western end of coiling and wall of garage facing west
- 33. West wall cablect overview facing northwest
- 34. Western wall in Front of vehicle facing north
- 35. Lower view of photo 34
- 36. Western cobinets along wall showing substantial charring
- 37. Bottom side of western cabinets showing overview and charring
- 36. Western cabinet displex recaptacle overview
- 39. Central ceiling channel of garage facing west
- 40. Vehicle top and western calling facing west
- 41. Northern ceiling overview of gauge facing west
- 42. Northern portion of gatage door facing northwest

insured:

UIS Flle No.: 1X01-05895

- 43. Northeastern corner of garage calling facing northwest
- 44. Wall view of 43.
- 45. Floor view of 44
- 46. Northern interior wall of gausse theing west
- 47. Close up of northwestern cabinet corner of garage facing west
- 48. Electrical receptacle serving freezer and refrigerator along sorth walk
- 49. Garage overview of kitches entry door
- 50. Kitchen entry door open showing no heat or fire damage in interior of home
- 51. Western will of garage showing cabinet char and durange in front of vehicle
- S2. Quartering view showing front right side of vehicle facing south
- 53. Northern side of garage door opener
- 54. Emtern side of garage deer opener
- 53. Southern overview of garage door opener
- 56. Western view of ceiling and wall showing fixed electrical wiring intact
- 57. Control coiling of gazage facing west
- 58. Eastern control section of garage facing southeast
- 59. Eastern positioned receptacle showing invesive heat demage
- 60. Western position light future wiring showing invasive heat damage
- 61. Top portion of light feature in central area of gazage showing investive heat damage
- 62. Bottom bullest side of light fixture showing investve host dansage
- 63. Southeastern corner light switch overview
- 64. Southeastern duplex receptacle overview
- 65. Central south deplay recognicle overview and exterior light switch
- 66. Exterior lighting wiring in southwest corner
- 67. Right side of frum fender overview
- 68. Left side fender overview
- 69. Floor everyiew of southwestern floor space of garage
- 70. Vehicle top and central ceiling averview
- 71. Rear view of vehicle facing west toward front side
- 72. Rest loading view of photo 71
- 73. Right front side overview of vehicle
- 74. Right rear overview of vehicle
- 75. Left front overview of vehicle
- 76. Left central side overview of vehicle
- 77. Left rear side overview of valuate
- 78. Driver's dash and steering wheel overview
- 79. Central dash overview
- 80. Right passonger's side overview of front sent
- \$1. Central deah overview facing southwest.
- \$2. Right side overview of engine compertment
- 83. Closer view of 82
- 84. Left side overview of engine black
- 25. Close up of left side feeder well of engine engantment
- 86. Broke master cylinder overview
- 87. Close up of master cylinder tempins on vacuum housing

Inspred: UIS Pile No.: TX01-05895 Front radiator and six conditioning condenses coll overview 89. Rest engine block and central firewall overview 90. Firewall overview above brake master cylinder assembly 91. Left side bracket of radiatur 92. Right side bracket of radiator **9**3. Front overview of engine block and grill Roar overview of ferenali 95. Brake master cylinder essembly overview Closer view of 95 Front jeft side of engine block showing attenuator remains Proof of engine block overview Top view of brake master cylinder and left side of the block 100. Lower frame overview of left fender well 101. Clase up of brake pressure switch top housing 102. Removed brake pressure switch top assembly 103. Packaged top assembly 104. Remains of lower portion of brake pressure switch in fire debris below master cylinder essentially 105. Lower portion of breke pressure switch 106. Quartering view of lower portion of brake pressure switch 107. Left side overview of master cylinder body 108. Top view of master cyfinder body

109. Cleared debris along left quadrant of vehicle

110. Both from and reer left side quadrants cleared of debris

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Exhibit_ &



CITY OF ALLEN FIRE DEPARTMENT 310 CENTURY PKWY, ALLEN, TEXAS 75013 (\$72) 127-0266 VOICE (\$72) 127-0266 FAX EMAIL: 600@d-eRea.tr.on

fax: <u>2144</u> Departme Sumber of	
FROM:	CRAIG GILLIS, ASST FIRE CHIEF / FIRE PREVENTION REIAN ROACH, FIRE ENVESTIGATOR
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Exhibit 3

SIGN-IN SHEET MARCH 16, 2004 ALLEN TEXAS

NAME	COMPANY	REPRESENTING	
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KEVIN Megi	LAW PRO-ONE	PRO-CIVE	
Anna Vous	PRO-ONE	1-1	
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'	EVIDENCE TRANSMITTAI	LETTER	
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Exhibit 5

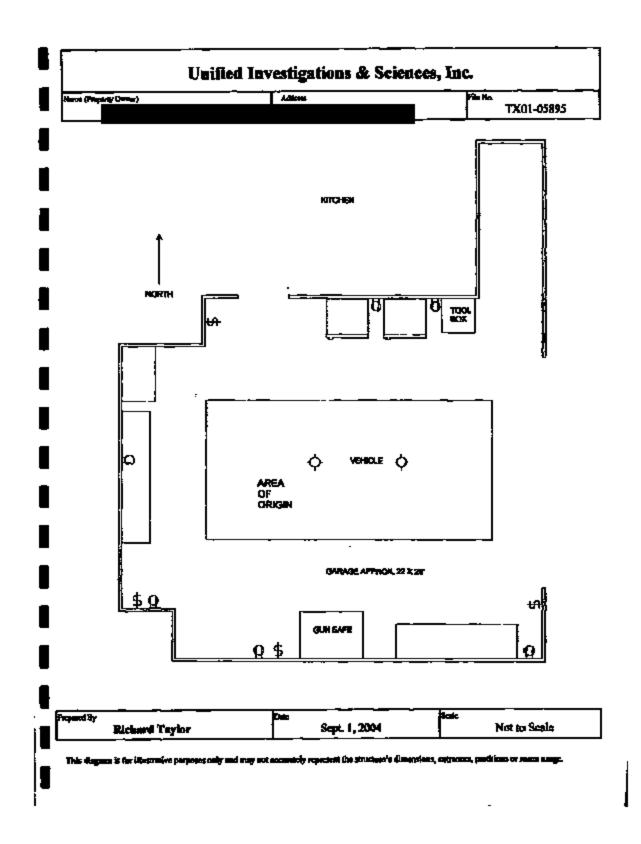


Exhibit <u>6</u>

Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc.

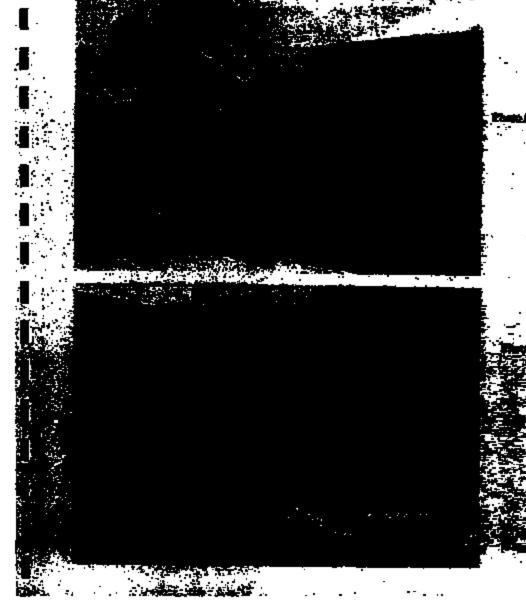
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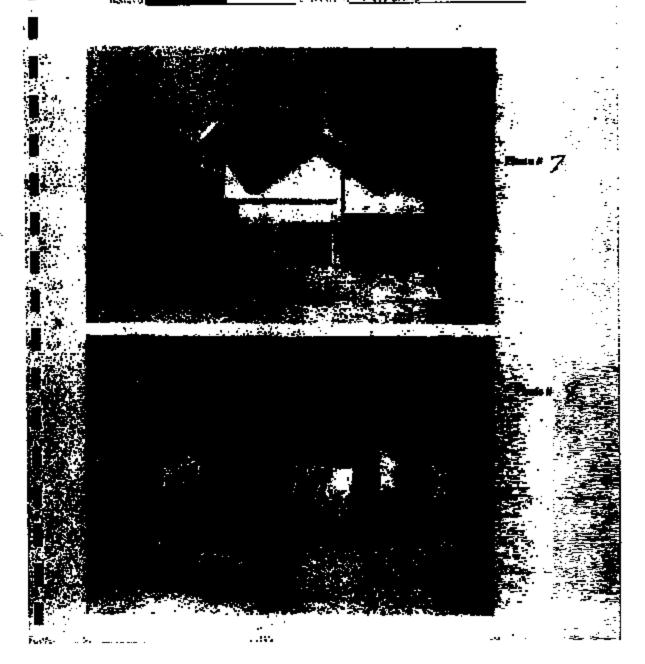
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Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc. 1/18 File #: **FX01-05895**

Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc.

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Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc.

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Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc.

Unified Investigations & Sciences. Inc.

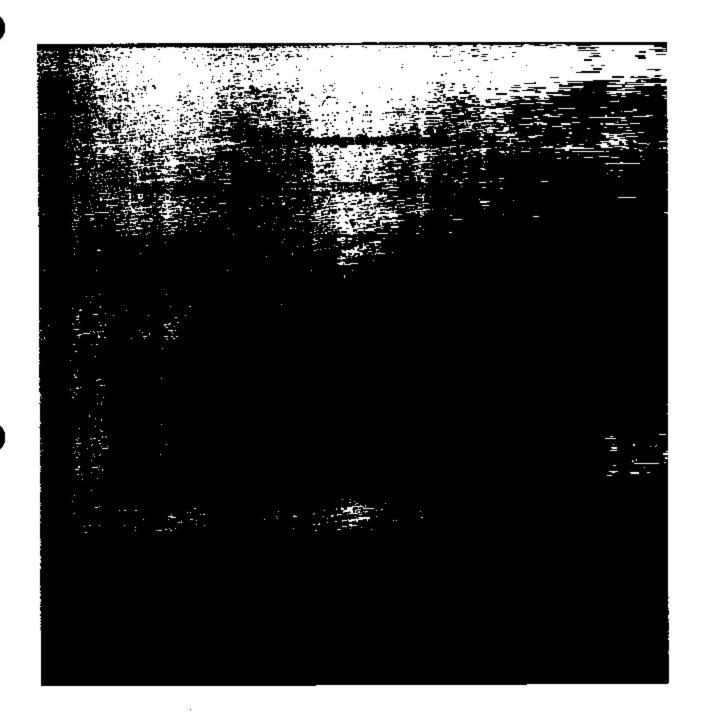
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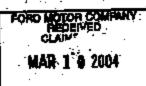


PO Box 40569 Jackschville floride 32203-0569 Voice 904.607.2500 Fax 904.807.2510

March 9, 2004

Ford Motor Company
Attn: Shawn Norton
3 Parklane Blvd Suite PWT300
Dearborn MI 48126

VIA FACSIMILE: 313-845-4089



OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNTRY

IMPORTANT NOTICE

: FFIC Claim Number

FFIC Insured
Date of Loss

Type of Loss

Anticipated Loss Amount

3/7/2004

: Fire Loss

: Claim adjustment still ongoing

Dear Ms. Norton:

As you are aware we represent Fireman's Fund Insurance Company ('FFIC') in putsuing subrogation recovery of any insurance funds which might be paid to FFIC's above noted insured for the above noted loss. The information we have been provided identifies you and/or your company as a party that may be responsible for causing, or contributing to the loss, and you and/or your company may be subject to subrogation.

To help you identify your involvement with this loss, please note: a fire occurred at the home of the insured. Inving TX. The fire originated in the attached two car garage for the home. At the time of the fire the insured's 2001 F and Expedition was located in the garage and was involved in the cause of the fire. The vehicle identification is: IFMFUIAL7!

OF VITAL IMMEDIATE IMPORTANCE at this time is that our expert(t) need to begin the removal of the evidence from the scene so that the insured can begin the removation of the home. You and/or your insurance carrier may wish to have an expert examine the scene as well. We wish to entered parties. However, this must be done immediately of lease have your carrier contact me within 48 hours to arrange for your expert laspection. If you or your expert do(es) not immediately contact us about this matter, we will assume you do not wish to make such an inspection

E985-865-LC-874

Insurance Services

PO Box 40569 Jacksonville Florida 32203-0569 Voice 904.807.2500 Fax 904.807.2510

Immediately notify your insurance carrier of this loss and potential claim against you and or your company, and have your carrier contact our office. If you do not have an insurance carrier, you and your company are put on notice of this claim. Please immediately let me know if that is the case.

Any dispute must be forwarded to our office in writing within ten (10) lays of your receiving this letter.

Sincerely,

Kyle F. Fitzpatrick

904-807-2736

PO Box 40569 Jacksonville Florida 32203-0569 Voice 904.807.2500 Fax 904.807.2510

March 9, 2004

Ford Motor Company
Attn: Shawn Norton
3 Parklane Blvd Suite PWT300
Dearborn MI 48126

RECEIVED OR L 6 2004

VIA FACSIMILE: 313-845-4089

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Re: FFIC Claim Number

FFIC Insured

Date of Loss : 3/7/2004
Type of Loss : Fire Loss

Anticipated Loss Amount : Claim adjustment still ongoing

Dear Ms. Norton:

As you are aware we represent Fireman's Fund Insurance Company ('FFIC') in pursuing subrogation recovery of any insurance funds which might be paid to FFIC's above noted insured for the above noted loss. The information we have been provided identifies you and/or your company as a party that may be responsible for causing, or contributing to the loss, and you and/or your company may be subject to subrogation.

To belp you identify your involvement with this loss, please note: a fire occurred at the home of the insured, 1! Wooden Lane, Irving TX. The fire originated in the attached two car garage for the home. At the time of the fire the insured's 2001 Ford Expedition was located in the garage and was involved in the cause of the fire. The vehicle identification is: 1FMFU1AL711

OF VITAL IMMEDIATE IMPORTANCE at this time is that our expert(s) need to begin the removal of the evidence from the scene so that the insured can begin the renovation of the home. You and/or your insurance carrier may wish to have an expert examine the scene as well. We wish to co-ordinate this for all concerned parties. However, this must be done immediately. Please have your carrier contact me within 48 hours to arrange for your expert inspection. If you or your carrier do(es) not immediately contact us about this matter, we will assume you do not wish to make such an inspection

PO Box 40569 Jacksonville Florida 32203-0569 Voice 904.807.2500 Fax 904.807.2510

Immediately notify your insurance carrier of this loss and potential claim against you and or your company, and have your carrier contact our office. If you do not have an insurance carrier, you and your company are put on notice of this claim. Please immediately let me know if that is the case.

Any dispute must be forwarded to our office in writing within ten (10) days of your receiving this letter.

Sincerely,

Kyle E. Fitzpatrick 904-807-2736

Institunce Services

O Box 40569 Jacksonville Florida 32203-0569 Voice 904.807.2500 Fax 504.807.2510

Surk by set glatet

March 9, 2004

Ford Motor Company Atta: Shawn Norton 3 Parklane Blvd Suite PW1300 Dearborn MI 48126

VIA FACSIMILE: 313-845-4089

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Re: FFIC Claim Number

FFIC Insured

Date of Loss
Type of Loss

Anticipated Loss Amount

: 3/7/2004

: Fire Loss

: Claim adjustment still ongoing

Dear Ms. Norton:

As you are aware we represent Fireman's Fund Insurance Company ('FFIC') in pursuing subrogation recovery of any insurance funds which might be paid to PFIC's above noted insured for the above noted loss. The information we have been provided identifies you and/or your company as a party that may be responsible for causing, or contributing to the loss, and you and/or your company may be subject to subrogation.

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A Passion for Process"

www.craigis.com

Insurance Services

PO Box 40559 Jacksonville Florida 32203-0569

Immediately notify your insurance carrier of this loss and potential claim against you and or your company, and have your carrier contact our office. If you do not have an insurance carrier, you and your company are put on notice of this claim. Please immediately let me know if that is the case.

Any dispute must be forwarded to our office in writing within ten (10) days of your receiving this letter.

Sincerely,

Kyle F. Fitzpatrick 904-807-2736

#00504130465



ChoicePoint Police Records P.O.Box 4000 Norcross, QA 30091-4000 Phone 1.800.934.9898 Fax 1.800.934.6449 Email <u>customerservice/Poolicerecords.com</u>

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Completed by Marcy	Douglas
Appeared by Many	Dooglas

Page 3 of 3



223 E. Groentvier Lane Dallin, Tenny 75203-1013 214-946-8989 Fax 214-946-8586

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL

September 3, 2004

First and Final Report

PREPARED FOR:

Pirentel's Fund Insurance

C/o Craig/is Limited

225 Water Street, Suite 1600 Jackscoville, Florida 32002

ATTENTION:

Mr. Kyle Fitzpetrick/Kevin Vandaccolk

Alica, Texas

ensured;

DATE OF LOSS:

March 7, 2004

LOSS LOCATION:

POLICY NUMBER:

Not Specifica

CLAIM NUMBER:

URS FILE NUMBER:

TX01-05895

THIS REPORT FEBRUARD AS PROVIDED AND CONTIDENTAL TO ADDRESSE, RELEASE TO ANY OTHER COMPANY, A CONCERN CADIONYMMAL STREET FOR RESPONDED LY OF ADDRESSE.

Impred:

UIS File No.: TX01-05195

ASSEGNMENT

The essignment was received March E, 2004, end the investigation commenced this same date. Instructions were to conduct an origin and cause investigation. This assignment was expended to include UIS Machanical Engineer Richard Schulze in review and assessment of the fire less site.

DETERMINATION OF ORIGIN AND CAUSE

This figs was applicable in nature. Burning first occurred in the wickly of the master brake cylinder housing located in the left side portion of the engine compartment. The cause was due to everywheating and fullure of the brake pressure switch of the brake master cylinder amendaly.

Information and factors available to establish origin:

- I. Area of greatest fire damage
- 2. Petterns of flame spread
- 3. Area of lowest burn.

information and factors available to establish cause:

- 1. Single area of origin
- 2. No ususual accelerated burn
- 3. Focused heat damage to brake master cylinder assembly
- 4. No other best or ignition source found

Property owners with the completion were present at the fire loss site during the initial portions of this examination. UIS Regimer Richard Schulus evaluted in the completion of this review. A subsequent review of the fire scene was conducted by Mr. Larry Helion of Newell investigative Services, Inc. based out of Chinesville, GA. He was present representing the interests of the Ford Motor Company. Commercial Installation Manager Eric Young and Associate Coupal Kevin McGrew attended this subsequent exam representing the interests of Protection One Alarm Systems.

The structure involved in this tire loss was a two-story, wood frame and stucco siding home lawing a composition roof and a slab foundation with the mein entrance facing in a smallestly direction. The home was located on the north side of the cul-de-sac ending to the east/west running readway.

No adverse conditions were encountered during this exact, and a thorough review of the fire loss was conducted. Alterations to the fire seem consisted of minor overland of debris in the south central garage area with the main door pulled down off of the mounting brackets. This dantage was conducted during suppression duties of fire personnel.

Insureda

ULS File No.: TX01-05895

Exterior conditions of the home manifested substantial heat and fire vent damage issuing out of the main entry doorway to the garage along the exterior exterior wall of the home. No other obvious fire damage was noted to the exterior portions of the structure.

All doors and windows reported secure munifesting no obvious signs of prior forcible entry.

The gatage and living portions of the house appeared well famished with items and constants that were consistent with a residential occupancy. Evidence of prior removal of items was not found.

Evidence listed in the origin and cause caption of this report reveal burning first occurred in the left side of the engine compartment involving the brake pressure switch and entocisted wiring. Flames aproad from this device to the adjacent brake master cylinder reservole. This plastic container eventually was compromised causing burning brake fluid to spread over a authoratical portion of the left side firewell and finder well of the whitels. At this point in the burning, firmes spread intensity across boses, plastic moldings and other combactible material throughout the engine compartment.

Fire vent damage was noted to the front grid and left side wheal well and lander of the webicle Flames vented out of the left and front side, then igniting wood shriving in the western portion of the garage. Other combustible materials were ignited along the south side of the garage with oventual venting out of the garage door. Most of the garage and vehicle were involved with fiames when suppression effects of the fire department were instituted. At some point in the burning, the gaspline fiel tank of the vehicle was ruptured adding to the total fiel load and burn of this fire.

Fire vegted out the top portion of the garage door caused extensive heat and fire damage to the missoary storce siding along the centera portion of the home extending upward to the according regular. This damage was limited to the insulation materials and siding with most of the framing intact.

Careful review of the fire loss did not reveal any evidence of multiple polists of origin or unsequented or unusual accelerated born. All documented facts and circumstances are consistent with failure of the vehicle's brake pressure switch, which was the ignition source and cause for this fire.

The house was protected by a home accurity system provided by the Protection One Alarm Services.

It should be noted that the garage was not covered by any heat or smalle detection sensors. This circumstance allowed substantial heat and florat build up within the garage before discovery by the homeowners and the substantial heat and florat build and smalle sensors in the garage could have limited property decreage due to earlier detection of this fire.

Insured:

UIS File No.: TX01-05895

INVESTIGATION

• Discovery

Property owner measurements ated that on the matting of the fire, she entired a strange histing sound, which seemed to be emanating from the kitchen area of the house. As she tried to determine the location of this strange noise, she then heard several loud through end booms coming from the sample. She then smelled the greater of smoke and immediately elegated her husband who was in their upstairs bedroom. Interest with a tremendous amount of heat and smoke. He alcansed the door that and then yelled to his wife and son to get out of the house that it was on fire. They slifted the house and dialed 9-1-1 on a cell phone to report the fire.

species that further related that the last time the vehicle was driven was on Saturday night at approximately 10:20 p.m. His wife had recently had a problem getting it out of park and the crube control would not work. A worker from his construction business looked at the vehicle and determined that a blown fine was the problem and replaced it. This was constinue a work before the fire and everything seemed to be in order after the blown fine was alreaged.

Fire Officials

After Fire Department Investigator Brian Reach stated that the call for alarm was received at 10:53 s.m. on March 7, 2004. Response to the fire scene was conducted with no unward difficulties and that no adverse weather conditions were encountered in this response. Units arrived on location approximately six minutes after the alarm reporting attacks and fire issuing from the garage of the house.

The fire was entinguished with no unusual difficulties with two pre-connected 1%-inch fire hand force. Fire depage was limited to the interior portions of the gazage and enterior skiing above the gazage entry doorway.

Investigator Brigo Rosch further stated that the cause for the fire was undetermined at this time but that no intentional or criminal act is suspected.

A copy of the Alien Fire Incident Report was obtained and is included as an exhibit in this report.

COMMENTS

Persuant to your instructions by phose, no additional work will be conducted on this assignment at this time, and our file will be placed inactive. Please call as if you have any additional questions or flutter assignment requires.

immed:

UIS File No.: TX01-05895

EXHIBITS

- Property Description Sheet Allen Fire Incident Report

- Fire Scene Sign in Short.
 Copy of the cridence transmittal shorts page 1 & 2
 One diagram with overlay
 110 color photo 4. 5.
- 6.
- Photograph negatives mailed under separate cover

Richard Taylor Special Investigator Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc. 214-946-8989 or 800-615-4840

loosed:

UIS File No.: TX01-05895

PHOTO EXPLANATION SHEET

- 1. North exterior parties of yard facing south towards year of home
- 2. Rear dwelling enclosure
- 3. Rest steps and entry into the earth portion of the home facing south
- 4. Rear portion of home facing south
- 5. Western rear section of home facing south
- 6. Pool house facing north
- 7. Poul house facing west
- 2. Western portion of home facing north
- 9. Pasters exterior wall showing meter box and natural gas service
- 10. Questaring view of photo 9
- 11. Northensiers exterior corner of home
- 12. Bootheastern exterior corner of home facing northwest
- Ownge entry door facing west from driveway
- 14. Northern overview of garage door
- 15. Immosing view of northern and of garage door
- 16. Southern end of garage door showing heat stress along south end
- 17. Close up of heat stress on south upper portion of garage door
- 18. Apposing view of south end of garage door
- 19. Gerage door removed and overview of entire door
- 20. Southern and of garage entry facing anotherest
- 21. Southern end of garage entry doorway ficing south
- 22. Rear overview of vehicle facing west
- 23. Fire damaged vehicle becase plate close up
- 24. Southeastern corner of gausge ceiling facing southwest
- 25. Wall view of photo 24
- 26. Place view of 25
- 27. Southern end of garage facing west from doorway
- 28. Southern wall overview facing west southwest
- 29. Wall and floor view of southern and of garage facing west
- 30. Close up of southwestern corner of surveys
- 31. Floor view of photo 30
- Western and of ceiling and wall of gazage facing west
- 33. West wall cabinet overview facing northwest
- 34. Western with in front of vehicle facing north.
- 35. Lower view of photo 34
- 36. Western cubinets along wall showing substactful charries
- 37. Bottom side of western cabinets showing overview and charting
- 38. Westors cobinet duplex receptacle overview
- 39. Central ceiling channel of garage facing west
- 40. Vehicle top and western coiling facing west
- 41. Northern ceiling overview of gazage facing west.
- 42. Northern parties of gazage door facing seethwest

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UES File No.: TX01-05895

- 43. Northeastern corner of garage ceiling facing northwest
- 44. Wall view of 43
- 45. Floor view of 44
- 46. Northern interior wall of garage facing west
- 47. Close up of northwestern cabinst counter of garage theing west
- 48. Electrical receptacle serving freezer and refrigerator along north wall
- 49. Garage overview of kitchen entry door
- \$0. Kitches entry door open showing no best or fire damage in interior of house
- 51. Western wall of garage showing exhibit ohar and damage in front of vehicle
- 52. Quartering view showing front right side of vehicle facing south
- 53. Northern side of garage door opeum
- 34. Eastern side of garage door opener
- 55. Southern overview of garage door opener
- 56. Western view of celling and wall showing fixed electrical wiring itsact
- 57. Contral colling of gamage facing west.
- 54. Easters central section of parage facing southeast
- 59. Eastern positioned receptacle showing investve heat damage
- 60. Western position light feature witing showing invesive heat damage
- 61. Top portion of light flatters in control area of garage showing invasive heat damage
- 62. Bottom ballest side of light fixture showing investive heat damage
- 63. Southeastern corner light switch overview
- 64. Southwestern duples: receptacle overview
- 65. Castral south deplez receptable overview and exterior light switch
- 66. Exterior lighting wiring in southwest comer
- 67. Right side of front femics overview
- 68. Left side finder overview
- 69. Floor overview of southwestern floor space of garage
- 70. Vehicle top and central onling overview
- 71. Reser view of vehicle facing west toward front side
- 72. Rear loading view of photo 71
- 73. Right front side overview of vehicle
- 74. Right rear overview of vehicle
- 75. Left frost overview of vehicle
- Left central skin overview of vehicle
- 77. Left rear side overview of volucie
- 78. Driver's dash and stoering whitel overview
- 79. Central deats overview
- \$0. Right patterner's side overview of frost stat.
- \$1. Ozntral dash overview floing southwest
- \$2. Right side overview of engine compartment
- \$3. Closer view of \$2
- 84. Left side overview of engine block
- \$5. Close up of lost side funder well of regine compartment
- 26. Brake smater cylinder overview
- 87. Close up of master cylinder romains on vacuum housing

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ULS File No.: 1301-05195

- 88. Front radiator and air conditioning condensar coll overview
- 89. Rest engine block and central forwall overview
- 90. Firewall overview above brake quater cylinder assembly
- 91. Left side bracket of radiator
- 92. Right side besolest of radiator
- 93. Front overview of engine block and grill.
- 94. Rest overview of frewall.
- 95. Bruke master cylinder essembly overview -
- 96. Closer view of 95
- 97. Front left side of engine block showing attemstor remains
- 99. Front of engine block overview
- 99. Top view of brake master cylinder and left side of the block
- 100. Lower frame overview of left feater well
- 101. Close up of brike pressure switch top housing
- 102. Removed leaks pressure switch top strembly
- 103. Peckaged top assembly
- 104. Remains of lower portion of brake pressure switch in fire debtle below master cylinder assembly
- 105. Lower portion of brake pressure switch
- 106. Quartering view of lower portion of brake pressure switch
- 107. Last side overview of master cylinder body
- 106. Top view of master cylinder body
- 109. Cleared debris along left quadrant of vehicle
- 110. Both front and rear left side quadrants cleared of debris

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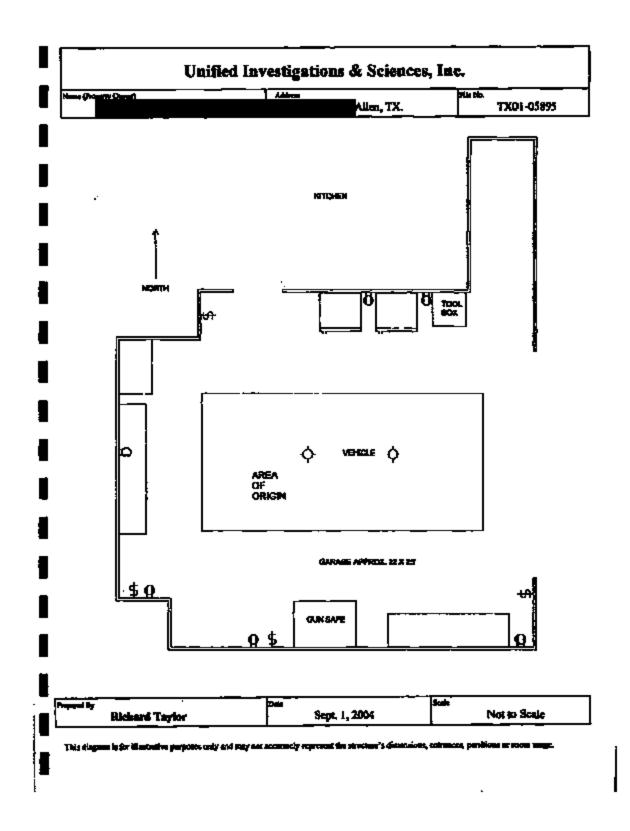
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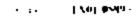
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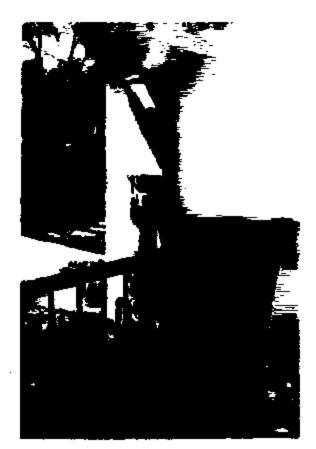
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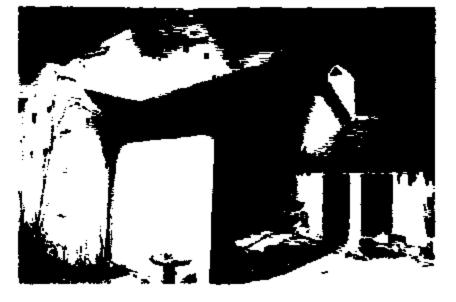
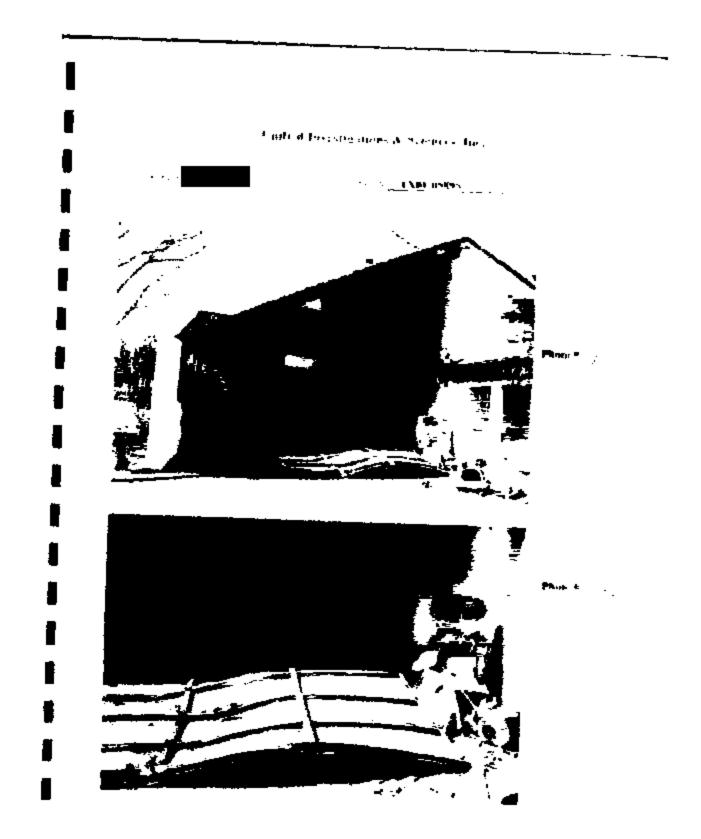
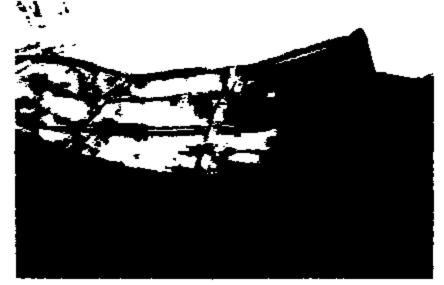


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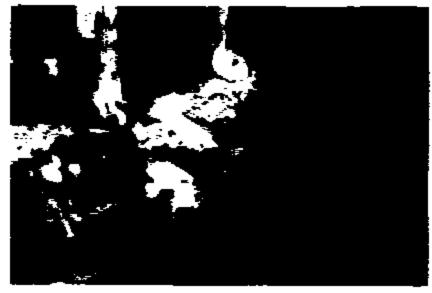
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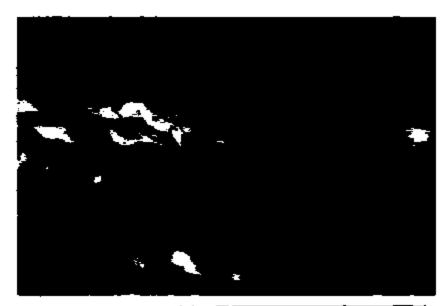
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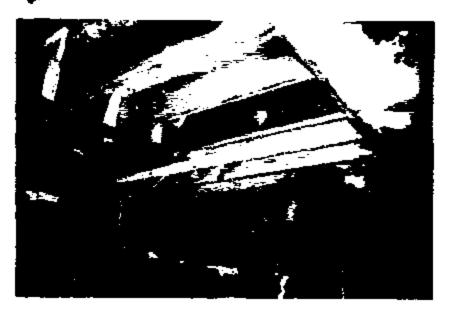


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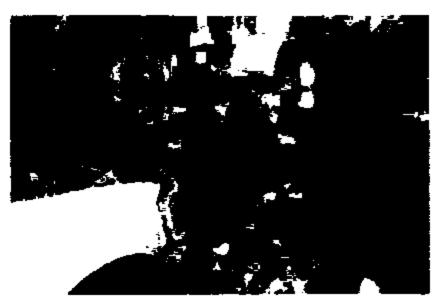
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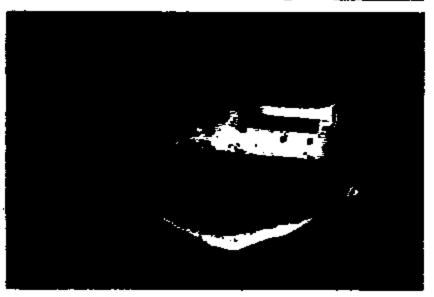


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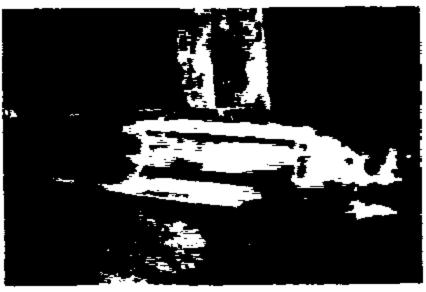


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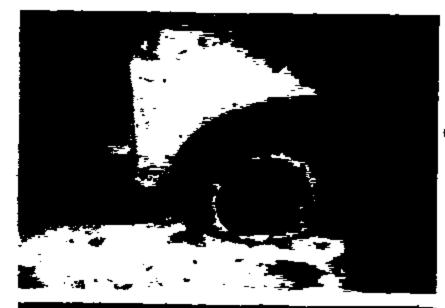
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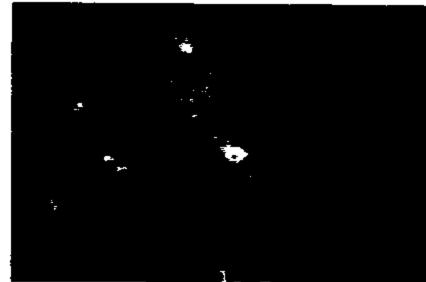
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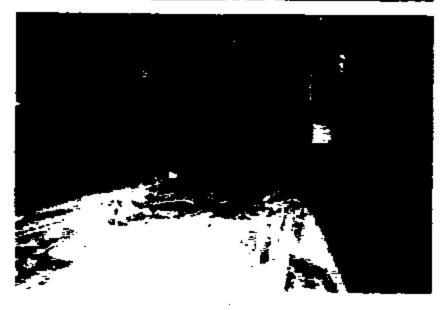


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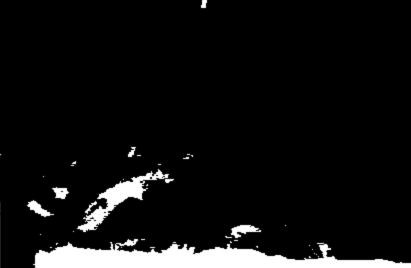






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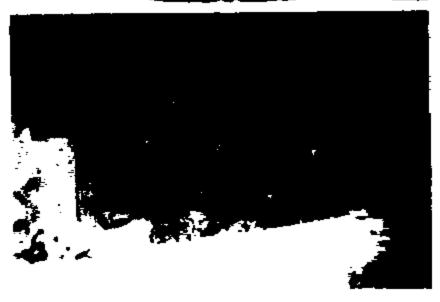
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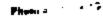
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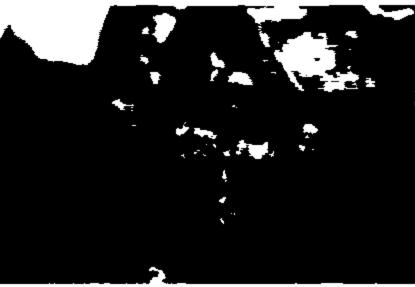


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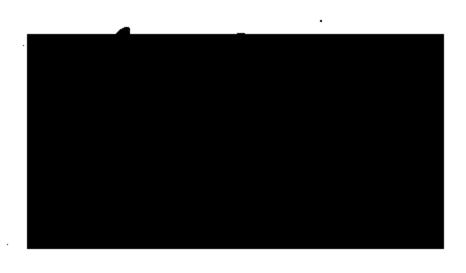
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SECTION

Fax: 877-217-1389

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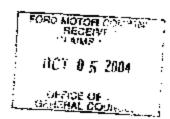
Pard Motor Co. Atta: Shawa Norton P.O. Box 6248 - MD 3ne B Dearborn, MI 48126

Re:

Our Insured: Loss Date:

Claim Number: Total Amount Owed: \$22,554.81

07/29/2004



Dear Shawn Norton,

A review of the facts of the above loss indicates that your product failed and caused damage. to our insured's property. We have made payment to our insured for these damages, and now seek reimbursement from you. WE RESPECTFULLY ASK THAT YOU NOT RESPOND TO OUR REQUEST WITH A FORM LETTER.

You will find this correspondence and its enclosures contain substantive information and support adequate for your firm to make a decision concerning your liability. This tehicle will be auxilable for your inspection during the next 60 days. Afterwards, we will be required to attempt to sell the saloage.

The entities in the stream of commerce, such as you, a manufacturer, are liable in both negligence and product liability. As you know, your obligation is to properly design and test, transfacture, and give appropriate instructions for installation and use of your product.

Your product did not meet the expectations of my insured, the consumer. Your product failed and caused the loss resulting in damages of 22,554.81. Attached are documents substantiating payment.

It is our desire to settle this claim without causing you the additional time and cost of higation or arbitration. After reviewing the enclosed, please call the to discuss resolving this matter.

Sincerely,

Mid-Century Insurance Company of Texas

Sale SMI



National Document Center P.O. Box 268992 Oldahoma City, OK 73126-8992 claimsdocument@farmersinsurance.com Fax: 877-217-1389

10/21/2004

Shawn Norton Ford Motor Co. P.O. Box 6248 - Md 3ne B Dearborn, MI 48126

Re: Our Insured:

Loss Date:

Claim Number:

Total Amount Owed:

07/29/2004

\$22,554.81

FORD MONOR COM QC1 2 7 2004

Dear Ms. Norton:

We previously advised you of our subrogation rights in regards to the above-noted claim. Enclosed herewith is our Cause and Origin Report with color photographs. If you need any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Your prompt response will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely.

Mid-Century Insurance Company of Texas

Scott Sheffield

Special Subrogation Representative

Sou SM

512-238-5739

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