



CARs

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Colonel Christopher A. Knight
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July 8, 2004

Re: Sergeant Chet Tomlinson
Corporal Jesse Stalnaker

I wish to take the time to bring to your attention the outstanding work by Sergeant Tomlinson and Corporal Stalnaker both of which are currently assigned out of the Lake City office.

Corporal Stalnaker was the lead Traffic Homicide Investigator in a fatal crash in Bradford County, which resulted in criminal charges against Mr. Bryan Plummer. The case went to a jury last week and the defendant was found guilty on three counts of DUI Vehicular Manslaughter and several other companion felony charges. I was retained by Mr. Plummer's defense to do a traffic crash reconstruction and examine Corporal Stalnaker's report and conclusions. I reviewed each and every aspect of his analysis, which included his speed and collision dynamics analyzes and found each of his opinions to be accurate and well presented within his report. I retired from the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and then spent six years teaching all levels of traffic reconstruction at the Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida and since 1992 have been in private practice in the area of traffic crash reconstruction. I bring this particular case to your attention because I was most impressed with the quality of Corporal Stalnaker's work and testimony before the jury (I was not present during his testimony but defense counsel advised he did an outstanding job). I know the amount of hard work and preparation that goes into reconstructing traffic crashes and then the pressure and work to

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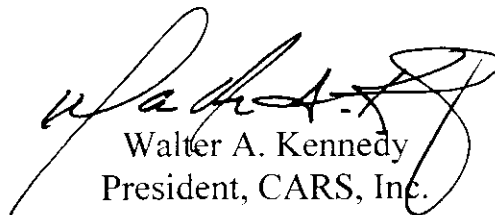
prepare and testify at trial. I wanted to inform you of Corporal Stalnaker's excellent work.

I am working an eight-vehicle crash that occurred on US 17 in Putnam County that resulted in two deaths and several serious injuries, which was investigated/reconstructed by Sergeant Tomlinson (he was a Corporal at the time). I am involved on behalf of one of the insurance companies as it relates to a civil action. The complexity of this case is not just that eight vehicles were involved but there were numerous other impacts involving people that were either ejected or exited their vehicles. The scene was one that produced tremendous amounts of physical evidence on the roadway as well as each vehicle. After spending several hours examining Sergeant Tomlinson report and his photographs I became very impressed with not only his conclusion but also with the manner in which he presented the facts and his opinion in his report. This particular crash has and will result in several civil lawsuits. Without Sergeant Tomlinson's very careful examination and documentation of all the evidence no one would have able to determine the sequence of events of this most tragic and complex crash.

It has been my honor and privilege, before my retirement and since to work with many Florida Highway Patrol Traffic Homicide Investigators throughout the state and I appreciate their professionalism and dedication to a most difficult and often thankless task.

With warmest regards, I am

Very truly yours



Walter A. Kennedy
President, CARS, Inc.

WAK/jdk