



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Motor Carrier
Safety Administration**

Administrator
DEC 04 2008

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Refer to: MC-ESS

Colonel John T. Czernis
Director, Florida Highway Patrol
2900 Apalachee Parkway MS 44
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0553

Dear Colonel Czernis:

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for the efforts of the Florida Highway Patrol in assisting with a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) safety inspection on Interstate 10 in Walton County. I recently saw a report where a Florida State trooper assisted a Florida Department of Transportation officer who discovered a large quantity of controlled substances during a roadside safety inspection of a CMV. As a result of the traffic stop, approximately 330 pounds of cocaine valued at over \$3 million was discovered and seized. The success of this CMV interdiction effort is a direct reflection of your leadership and commitment to CMV safety. You and those who participated are to be commended.

Safety is the top priority of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), and we would not be able to accomplish our safety goals without the efforts of our State and local partners. Efforts like these demonstrate that enforcement activities can have a substantial impact on highway safety in achieving our mutual goal of reducing criminal activity and incidence of CMV fatalities and serious injuries.

I look forward to a continued relationship with you and the Florida Highway Patrol.

Sincerely yours,

John H. Hill

cc:

Darrell L. Ruban, FMCSA Field Administrator, Southern Service Center
James C. Gregg, FMCSA Florida Division Administrator

Date

DEC 9 2008

Office of the Director