

2800 Ridgcrest Drive
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27803

January 18, 2014

Bob Wahlin, President
Stoughton Trailers, LLC
416 South Academy Street
Stoughton, Wisconsin 53589

Dear Mr. Wahlin:

On May 4, 2013, Marianne Karth and the youngest three of her nine children, AnnaLeah, Caleb, and Mary, were driving in Georgia on their way to a family wedding and four college graduations in Texas. Their car was hit by a truck, spun around, and hit by the truck again so that the car was pushed backward and literally stuffed under the rear of another truck.

Mary and AnnaLeah were in the back seat. AnnaLeah, only a week from her eighteenth birthday, died instantly from mechanical asphyxia. Mary, 13, had gross facial trauma (multiple facial fractures) and a stroke and died four days later from the swelling in her brain. While Marianne and Caleb did survive, they, and the rest of the family, are utterly devastated by the loss of AnnaLeah and Mary.

The Karth family has since attempted to raise awareness about the truck safety standards that are currently in place. We want other families to never have to experience the type of loss that we did and, thus, we turn to you—a semi-trailer manufacturer.

You are in a position to voluntarily improve the standards of underride guards. Meeting and exceeding the current safety standards has already been proven possible by Manac, Inc. Manac's standards for underride guards exceed not only those in the U.S. but, also, the more stringent standards in Canada.

Trucks, and the trucking industry, are a necessary part of life as we know it, but that does not mean that we, as a country, should not try to make the trucking industry safer for everyone. By improving the safety standards on every new truck produced, more lives can be saved.

Therefore, we are asking you, starting May 4, 2014, to manufacture all new Stoughton semi-trailers with underride guards which would meet or exceed the Manac standards—thereby, reducing the risk to those who travel the roads of our country, providing them with the best possible protection.

Sincerely,

Jerry Karth