



JAMES W. McMAHON
SUPERINTENDENT

**NEW YORK STATE POLICE
BUILDING 22
1220 WASHINGTON AVE.
ALBANY, N. Y. 12226-2252**

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

February 28, 2001

Mr. Steven M. Kelley
Investigator
New York State Police
Special Investigations Unit
1099 Jay Street
Rochester, New York 14611

Dear Mr.  Kelley:

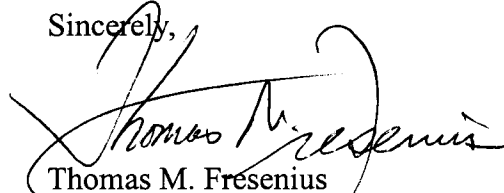
In November of 2000, the Rochester Auto Theft Unit of the New York State Police Special Investigations Unit was requested to assist the village of Addison code Enforcement Officer with an auto-related complaint in the Village of Addison, Steuben County, New York. The complaint concerned the operation of an auto repair shop without proper licensing.

As a result of the investigation conducted by your unit, it was discovered that the repair shop owner lacked the proper licensing to operate his business. A request to review the shop's book of registry for all vehicles on the premises was granted, along with written consent to search the location. Subsequent to a review of the registry, verification and visual search of all vehicles on site, the following items were seized: one stolen vehicle valued at \$20,000, four vehicles with a total value of \$16,000, without public VIN or paperwork and six separate vehicles with a total value of \$4,400, in disassembled condition without identification stickers or paperwork.

This case was presented to the Steuben County Grand Jury and resulted in a 27-count indictment for Illegal Possession of Vehicle Identification Numbers, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property and Criminal Contempt against the repair shop owner.

Your outstanding performance in this investigation is hereby commended. The dedication and diligence displayed by you in this case is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,


Thomas M. Fresenius
Captain
Special Investigations Unit