[redacted] b7E

FD-1036 (Rev. 10-16-2009)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Import Form

Form Type: Letter Incom - Letter - Incoming **Date:** 02/02/2022

Title: (U) Congressional Oversight: Congressman Paul D. Tonko

Approved By: A/UC [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] b6 b7C

Case ID #: [redacted] (U) Director Christopher A. Wray's Records

[redacted] b3 b7E

Synopsis: (U) Letter from Congressman Paul D. Tonko dated 01/31/2022, regarding recent press coverage that the FBI may have shielded Shahed Hussain, the owner of Prestige Limousine, from legal consequences following a deadly transportation accident because of his prior service as a confidential informant, and Congressman Tonko is requesting documents and communications relating to the events of 10/06/2018.

Information only copies sent via email to the Deputy Director, Associate Deputy Director, Chief of Staff, Deputy Chief of Staff, Special Counsel to the Director, Special Assistant to the Director, [redacted] b6 b7C EAD/NSB, EAD/CCRSB, IMD/RIDS, CTD, CID, CD, OPA, SAC-Albany, and [redacted]

♦♦

From: OCA
To: OCA_EXECSEC
Subject: Fwd: Letter to Director Wray from Rep. Paul D. Tonko (attached)
Date: Monday, January 31, 2022 1:51:07 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png
Letter to Director Wray from Rep. Tonko 1.31.22.pdf

Sentinel entry for assignment to OCA

From: [redacted] b6 b7C b7E
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 1:40:18 PM
To: OCA <[redacted]>
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Letter to Director Wray from Rep. Paul D. Tonko (attached)

Good afternoon,

I hope this email finds you well.

Attached please find a letter from Congressman Paul D. Tonko to Director Christopher A. Wray.

Please do not hesitate to contact our office with any questions.

Thank you,

[redacted] b6 b7C

Congressman Paul D. Tonko (NY-20)
2369 Rayburn HOB, Washington, DC 20515
t: 202.225.5076 | f: 202.225.5077

PAUL D. TONKO
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
20TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

January 31, 2022

The Honorable Christopher A. Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Director Wray,

I write to you regarding the recent and disturbing allegations concerning possible Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) intervention on behalf of Shahed Hussain, the owner of Prestige Limousine.[1]

As you may be aware, on Saturday, October 6, 2018, twenty people were killed in the deadliest transportation disaster our nation has seen in almost a decade. Prestige Limousine had been contracted to transport a group of 17 passengers in an oversized 2001 Ford Excursion when the brake system failed and the driver lost control of the vehicle, struck two pedestrians, and crashed into a ditch.[2] Despite repeated citations from the New York State Department of Transportation, severe mechanical defects, and being ordered unserviceable a month before the crash, Prestige Limousine continued renting out this vehicle in direct violation of the law.[3]

Recent press coverage of this tragedy has alleged that the Federal Bureau of Investigation may have shielded Mr. Hussain and his family over the years from various legal consequences as a reward for Mr. Hussain's prior service as a confidential informant. According to New York Magazine reporting, when the National Transportation Safety Board addressed the public after the release of its full report on the crash, "..board members struggled to contain their fury. Much of it was directed at the Department of Transportation, which knew Prestige was a threat — the report counted 32 times the agency had interacted with the company — and failed to act."[1] These disturbing allegations are of great concern to me as well as families who lost loved ones in this

[1] https://nymag.com/intelligencer/article/limo-crash-ny-Federal Bureau of Investigation-informant.html
[2] https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/fbi-informant-in-terror-stings-owned-limo-in-13290392.php
[3] https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/State-DOT-s-kid-gloves-on-limo-company-13378368.php?IPID=Times-Union-limo-crash-investigations-4pack

deadly crash. To be clear, I am not aware of any evidence of FBI involvement on behalf of Prestige Limousine, but the families and our community deserve to hear whether these allegations hold any truth or are baseless.

I request a swift and detailed response on these allegations. Many of the victims of the Schoharie limousine crash were from my hometown of Amsterdam, New York. More than three years after the Schoharie limousine crash, the families still in mourning deserve to know the truth about these disturbing allegations as it relates to the devastating loss of their loved ones, and it is my hope and expectation that you can make this information available fully and without delay.

I request you provide the following materials by Monday, February 28, 2022:

1. Documents and communications related to Mr. Shahed Hussain or Prestige Limousine.
2. Documents and communications with the New York State Department of Transportation related to Mr. Shahed Hussain, Prestige Limousine, or the events of October 6, 2018.
3. Documents and communications with the New York State Police and/or the Schoharie County District Attorney's Office related to Mr. Shahed Hussain, Prestige Limousine, or the events of October 6, 2018.

Additionally, I request that you make briefers available in advance of February 28, 2022, to discuss the communications listed above. Please know that I am available to receive any classified briefings or materials as it relates to this case in a House of Representatives Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility.

I appreciate your engagement with the legislative branch on this issue and look forward to continuing to work productively as I and many others search for answers in this senseless tragedy.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Tonko

[redacted] b7E

FD-1036 (Rev. 10-16-2009)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Import Form

Form Type: UNET Email - Email Sent on UNET **Date:** 05/04/2022

Title: (U) Congressional Response: Congressman Paul D. Tonko

Approved By: A/PM [redacted] b6 b7C

Drafted By: [redacted]

Case ID #: [redacted] (U) Director Christopher A. Wray's Records b7E

Synopsis: (U) Supplemental letter from Assistant Director Jill C. Tyson to Representative Paul Tonko, dated April 22, 2022, responding to his letter dated January 31, 2022.

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[redacted] (IMD) (FBI) b6 b7C

From: OCA
Sent: Friday, April 22, 2022 3:21 PM
To: [redacted] b6
Subject: RE: Letter to Director Wray from Rep. Paul D. Tonko (attached) b7C
Attachments: 20220422 FBI Supplemental Response to Representative Tonko Incoming 20220131.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good afternoon,

Please find a further response from the FBI to Representative Tonko's letter, dated January 31, 2022, attached.

Please confirm receipt.

Best,

Office of Congressional Affairs
Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: OCA
Sent: Friday, February 18, 2022 3:37 PM
To: [redacted] b6
Subject: RE: Letter to Director Wray from Rep. Paul D. Tonko (attached) b7C

Good afternoon,

Please find the FBI's response to Representative Paul D. Tonko's letter, dated January 31, 2022, attached.

Please confirm receipt.

Best,

Office of Congressional Affairs
Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: [redacted] b6 b7C b7E
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 1:40 PM
To: OCA [redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Letter to Director Wray from Rep. Paul D. Tonko (attached)

Good afternoon,

I hope this email finds you well.

Attached please find a letter from Congressman Paul D. Tonko to Director Christopher A. Wray.

Please do not hesitate to contact our office with any questions.

Thank you,

b6
b7C

Congressman Paul D. Tonko (NY-20)
2369 Rayburn HOB, Washington, DC 20515
t: 202.225.5076 | f: 202.225.5077

U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Office of Congressional Affairs

Office of the Assistant Director

935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20535-0001

April 22, 2022

The Honorable Paul Tonko
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Tonko:

This further responds to your letter, dated January 31, 2022, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), regarding a tragic limousine crash that occurred on October 6, 2018, in Schoharie, New York. This supplements our prior correspondence, dated February 18, 2022.

The FBI shares your concerns about this tragic limousine crash that claimed the lives of twenty people. In recent months, concerns have been raised about this incident and whether there was any FBI involvement in the investigation. As a result, the Director ordered that the FBI further review the matter. A review was promptly commenced by the Inspection Division and is ongoing. Therefore, the FBI is not in a position to provide further information at this time.

Thank you for your continued support of the FBI, our mission, and our people.

Sincerely,

Jill C. Tyson
Assistant Director

[redacted] b3 b7E

FD-1057 (Rev. 5-8-10)

UNCLASSIFIED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Electronic Communication

Title: (U) Memorialize FBI Assistance at Mass Casualty Event on October 6, 2018, T /Schoharie

Date: 10/15/2018

CC: [redacted] b6 b7C

From: ALBANY
AL-4 PC/WCC
Contact: [redacted] b3 b6 b7C b7E

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]

Case ID #: [redacted] (U) EVIDENCE RESPONSE TEAM -

Synopsis: (U) Memorialize FBI Assistance at a mass casualty event involving the deaths of 20 persons at the intersection of State Routes 30 and 30A in the Town of Schoharie, County of Schoharie, State of New York on Saturday, October 06, 2018 at approximately 1355 hours.

Details:

(U) On Saturday, October 6, 2018 , at approximately 1355 hours, a mass casualty event occurred at the intersection of State Routes 30 and 30A in the Town of Schoharie, County of Schoharie, State of New York. A limousine carrying 17 passengers and a driver failed to negotiate a steep decline on Route 30, failed to stop at a T-intersection with Route 30A, and crossed the intersection, striking a vehicle, two bystanders, who died at the scene, and then striking a gully, embankment, and trees. All 17 passengers and the limousine driver died from massive internal trauma. A total of 20 people died as a result of their injuries sustained from the impact of the accident.

[redacted] b3 b7E

Title: (U) Memorialize FBI Assistance at Mass Casualty Event on October 6, 2018, T/Schoharie
Re: [redacted] 10/15/2018

(U) FBI representative, Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) [redacted] responded to the scene and offered the assistance of the FBI to the New York State Police (NYSP) [redacted] b6 b7C Schoharie County Sheriff Ronald Stevens, National Traffic Safety Board (NTSB) [redacted] and [redacted]

(U) At this writing of this communication, all agencies expressed their appreciation for the FBI's extension of offers of assistance, but were all adequately handling their assigned/respective duties and needs. But they would advise if assistance from the FBI would be needed in the future.

(U) SSA [redacted] provided FBI contact information to all investigative agencies concerned. b6 b7C

(U) On October 10, 2018, the Schoharie County District Attorney, Susan Mallery, charged [redacted] of the limousine service (Prestige Limousine), [redacted] with one count of criminally negligent homicide. [redacted] was arraigned in the Town of Cobleskill Court, and released on $150,000 bond. Additional charges may be filed in the future pending the results of the NYSP and NTSB investigations. b6 b7C

(U) Responding agencies included: New York State Police (NYSP) Accident Reconstruction Unit, NYSP Forensic Identification Unit, NYSP Bureau of Criminal Investigations, NYS Department of Transportation,

b3
b7E

Title: (U) Memorialize FBI Assistance at Mass Casualty Event on October 6, 2018, T/Schoharie
Re: [redacted] 10/15/2018

NYSP Patrol Units, NYS Homeland Security, Schoharie County Sheriff's Department, numerous local fire and EMS units, MedFlight, FBI, NTSB, Schoharie Coroner's Office, and the American Red Cross.

♦♦