Case No. 83239

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF JUDITH SALTER, INDIVIDUALLY; JOSHUA KANER, INDIVIDUALLY; AND JOSHUA KANER AS GUARDIAN AND NATURAL PARENT OF SYDNEY KANER, A MINOR,	F THE STATE OF NEVADA Electronically Filed Nov 02 2021 07:03 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court District Court Case No.: A-20-827003-C
Appellants,	
vs.	
EDWARD RODRIGUEZ MOYA, AN INDIVIDUAL; AND BERENICE DOMENZAIN-RODRIGUEZ, AN INDIVIDUAL,	APPELLANT'S APPENDIX, VOLUME 2 (Nos. 251–500)
Respondents.	

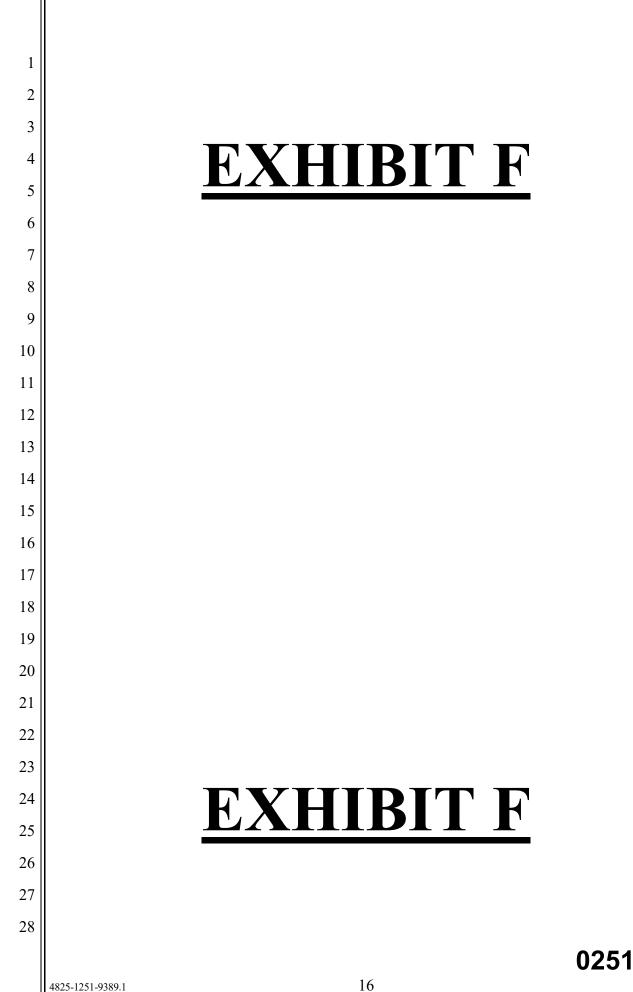
Price Beckstrom, PLLC

Daniel R. Price, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 13564 Christopher Beckstrom, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 14031 1404 South Jones Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89146 Attorneys for Appellants

INDEX TO PETITIONER'S APPENDIX

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement	Vol. 1, 1–112
Opposition to Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement	Vol. 1, 113–37
Defendants' Reply to Plaintiffs' Opposition to Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement	Vol. 1, 138–250 Vol. 2, 251–5
Court Minutes, dated March 15, 2021	Vol. 2, 256–7
Order Denying Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement	Vol. 2, 258–61
Notice of Entry of Order Denying Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement	Vol. 2, 262–8
Motion for Reconsideration of Court's March 15, 2021 Minute Order Denying Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement	Vol. 2, 269–392
Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration of Court's March 15, 2021 Minute Order Denying Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement	Vol. 2, 393–412
Defendants' Reply to Plaintiffs' Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration of Court's March 15, 2021 Minute Order Denying Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement	Vol. 2, 413–500 Vol. 3, 501–41

Order, dated July 10, 20121, Granting Motion for Reconsideration	Vol. 3, 542–7
Notice of Entry of Order Granting Motion for Reconsideration	Vol. 3, 548–56
Transcript from Hearing on Motion for Reconsideration	Vol. 3, 557–79



EWIS BRISBOIS

BISGAARD &SMITHШР

ORNEYS AT LAW



Attn: Region IV Claims, PO Box 509119 San Diego, CA 92150-9914

11/12/2020

Price Beckstom Pllc

7312 W CHEYENNE AVE STE 5 Las Vegas, NV 89129-7425

Company Name:	GEICO Advantage Insurance Company
Claim Number:	027998674 0101 014
Loss Date:	Saturday, July 25, 2020
Policyholder:	Berenice Domenzain-rodriguez
Driver:	Edward Rodriguez moya
Clients:	Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner and Sydney Kaner

Dear Price Beckstom Pllc,

Please be advised that there were a total of three (3) injured parties that were involved in the above referenced loss.

We have Bodily Injury Coverage on our policy with limits of \$25,000.00 per person/ \$50,000.00 per occurrence. At this time, we are extending an offer of the global limit of \$50,000.00 to settle the three (3) bodily injury claims presented in this loss.

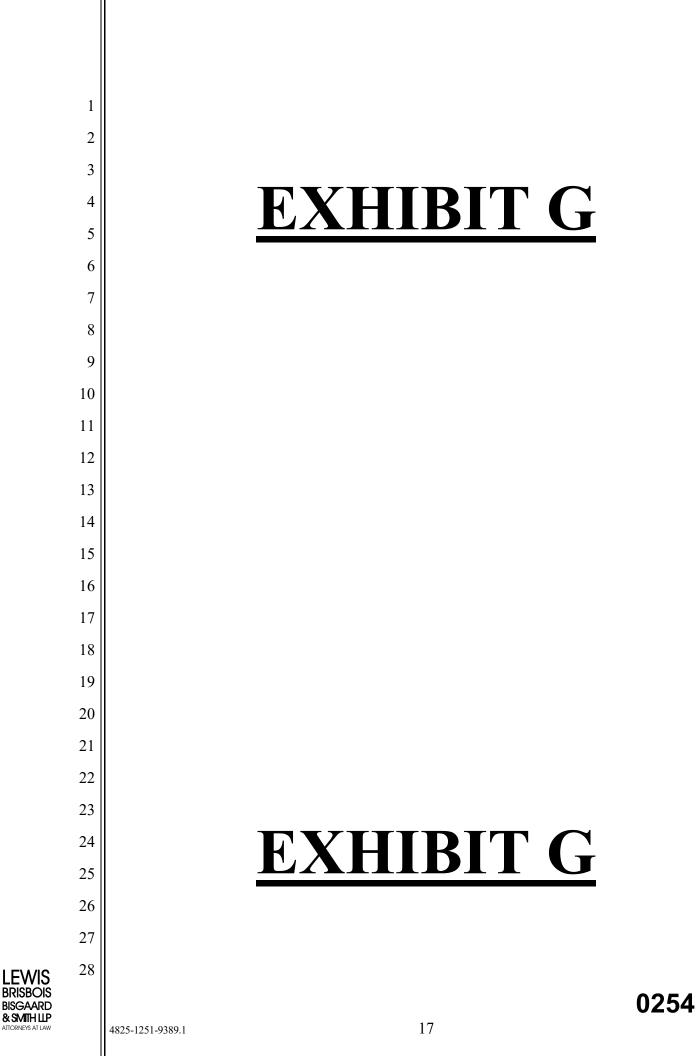
Please take this matter under consideration to come up with a distribution of our remaining policy limits (with no one person receiving more than the \$25,000.00 single policy limit and all parties limited to \$50,000.00 combined.) Please notify me when you have come to a conclusion regarding the disbursement of the remaining limits.

Please note that all parties must agree to settlement before we can issue payments. We will coordinate with all parties to assist in the agreement and anticipated resolution to include the utilization of a mediator if necessary.

Please note given the nature of the case we will request court approval for any minors involved.

Sincerely,

Whitney Atterberry 520-546-5254 Claims Department





December 1, 2020

Whitney Atterberry GEICO PO Box 509119 San Diego, CA 92150 *Via Document Upload*

Re:	Your insured :	Berenice Domenzain-Rodriguez &
		Edward J Rodriguez Moya
	Date of Loss :	7/25/2020
	Claim Number:	0279986740101014
	My Clients :	Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner and Sydney Kaner

Dear Ms. Atterberry:

My clients were surprised that you did not accept their settlement offer dated October 22, 2020. We did receive your counteroffer dated November 12, 2020, which my clients reject.

Sincerely,

Daniel Price

Daniel R. Price, Esq. PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC

DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Negligence - Au	to	COURT MINUTES	March 15, 2021
A-20-827003-C	Judith Salter, P vs. Edward Rodrig	laintiff(s) guez Moya, Defendant(s)	
March 15, 2021	3:00 AM	Minute Order	
HEARD BY: B	luth, Jacqueline M.	COURTROOM:	RJC Courtroom 10C
COURT CLERK	: Keith Reed		
RECORDER:			
REPORTER:			
PARTIES PRESENT:			

JOURNAL ENTRIES

- Having considered Defendants Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement, Plaintiffs Opposition, and Defendants Reply, the motion is hereby DENIED. Plaintiffs Judith Salter, Joshua Kamer, and minor Sydney Kamer allege that they were involved in a motor-vehicle collision involving the defendants which occurred on or about July 25, 2020. Plaintiffs allege they were rear-ended by Defendants and sustained injuries as a result. On October 22, 2020, Plaintiffs sent a Time-Limited Settlement Offer to Defendants. The offer required acceptance by performance and included the following language:

My clients make this one-time offer to settle all of my clients claims arising from this loss against your insured in exchange for the formal limits of your insureds policy limits of \$50,000 as a global tender. This offer expires on November 23, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., Pacific Time. This offer can only be accepted by the following performance, accomplished prior to the expiration of this offer:

1) Receipt of \$50,000 (the global policy limits of this policy) in my office, payable to Price Beckstrom, PLLC, Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner, and Sydney Kaner.

(Plaintiffs 10/22/20 Settlement Offer) (emphasis added). GEICO responded to Plaintiffs settlement offer with a letter dated November 12, 2020, stating:

We have Bodily Injury Coverage on our policy with limits of \$25,000.00 per person/\$50,000.00 perPRINT DATE:03/16/2021Page 1 of 2Minutes Date:March 15, 2021

occurrence. At this time, we are extending an offer of the global limit of \$50,000.00 to settle the three (3) bodily injury claims presented in this loss.

Please take this matter under consideration to come up with a distribution of our remaining policy limits (with no one person receiving more than the \$25,000.00 single policy limit and all parties limited to \$50,000.00 combined.) Please notify me when you have come to a conclusion regarding the disbursement of the remaining limits.

GEICO's 11/12/20 Letter. Defendants now argue that the November 12, 2020 letter sent to Plaintiffs constituted valid acceptance of the settlement offer and request that this Court enforce the agreement. Acceptance of an offer is a manifestation of assent to the terms thereof made by the offeree in a manner invited or required by the offer. Eagle Materials, Inc. v. Stiren, 127 Nev. 1131, 373 P.3d 911 (2011); (citing Restatement (Second) of Contracts 50 (1981)). Where an offer invites an offeree to accept by rendering a performance ... [a] contract is created when the offeree tenders or begins the invited performance. Id. (citing Restatement (Second) of Contracts 45 (1981)). Where the offer requires acceptance by performance and does not invite a return promise ... a contract ca be created only by the offeree's performance. Restatement (Second) of Contracts 50 (1981). A mere promise to perform, without actual performance, does not constitute valid acceptance in such a situation. Id. Plaintiff's October 22, 2020 Settlement Offer clearly states that the offer can only be accepted by performance accomplished prior to the expiration of the offer. It is undisputed that Defendants did not provide payment in the manner specified prior to the deadline. Accordingly, the essential element of acceptance is not present to form an enforceable contract and Defendants motion is DENIED. Plaintiff's counsel shall promptly submit a proposed order.

CLERK'S NOTE: The above minute order has been distributed via e-mail to: Attorneys Daniel R. Price & Darrell D. Dennis. kar 3/16/21

PRINT DATE: 03/16/2021

Page 2 of 2

Minutes Date: March 15, 2021

		ELECTRONICALLY S			
		4/22/2021 11:36 /	Electronical	ly Filed	
			04/22/2021	11:36 AM	
			CLERK OF THI	F COURT	-
	1	ORDR		2000111	
		Daniel R. Price (NV Bar No. 13564)			
	2	Christopher Beckstrom (NV Bar No. 14031)			
	3	PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC 1404 S. Jones Blvd.			
	3	Las Vegas, Nevada 89146			
	4	Phone: (702) 941-0503			
	_	Fax: (702) 832-4026			
	5	info@pbnv.law			
	6	Attorneys for Plaintiffs DISTRICT C	OURT		
	0	CLARK COUNTY			
	7				
<u>.</u>	0	JUDITH SALTER, individually; JOSHUA	Case No.: A-20-827003-C		
L PLL	8	KANER, individually; and JOSHUA KANER as guardian and natural parent of SYDNEY	Dept. No.: 6		
$\sum_{i=1}^{n}$	9	KANER, a minor;	Dept. No.: 0		
	-				
	10	Plaintiffs,			
RICE BECKSTROM PLC ATTORNEYS AT LAW	11	v.			
CT s	11	V.			
ΞΞ	12	EDWARD RODRIGUEZ MOYA, an individual;			
	10	BERENICE DOMENZAIN-RODRIGUEZ, an			
Ξ	13	individual; DOE OWNERS I-V; DOE DRIVERS I-V; ROE EMPLOYERS I-V and			
$\prod_{i=1}^{n}$	14	ROE COMPANIES I-V;			
[−] A					
	15	Defendants.			
	- 16				
	10	ORDER DENYING DEFI	ENDANTS' MOTION		
	17	TO ENFORCE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT			
	10	THIS COUPT upon review of the papers and pleadings on file in this Matter hereby			
	18	THIS COURT, upon review of the papers and pleadings on file in this Matter, hereby			
	19	DENIES Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement and finds and orders as follows:		vs:	
	• •		-		
	20	This Court FINDS this matter arises from a me	otor vehicle collision which occurred on	July	
	21	25, 2020. This Court further finds Defendants' auto ir	surance carrier, GEICO Advantage Insu	rance	
			-		
	22	Company ("GEICO") was authorized to act on Defend	dants' behalf to negotiate a settlement un	der the	
	23	insuring agreement.			
	24				
			_ 0258	3	

Case Number: A-20-827003-C

1	This Court further FINDS counsel for Plaintiffs served an unambiguous pre-litigation
2	settlement offer to GEICO on October 22, 2020, requiring acceptance by performance and including
3	the following language:
4	My clients make this one-time offer to settle all of my clients' claims arising from this loss against your insured in exchange for the formal limits of your insureds' policy limits of
5	\$50,000 as a global tender.
6	This offer expires on November 23, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., Pacific Time. This offer can only be accepted by the following performance, accomplished prior to the expiration of this offer:
7 8	 Receipt of \$50,000 (the global policy limits of this policy) in my office, payable to "Price Beckstrom, PLLC, Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner, and Sydney Kaner."
9	GEICO responded to Plaintiffs' settlement offer with a letter dated November 12, 2020, stating:
10	We have Bodily Injury Coverage on our policy with limits of \$25,000.00 per person/\$50,000.00 per occurrence. At this time, we are extending an offer of the global
11	limit of \$50,000.00 to settle the three (3) bodily injury claims presented in this loss.
12	Please take this matter under consideration to come up with a distribution of our remaining policy limits (with no one person receiving more than the \$25,000.00 single policy limit and all parties limited to \$50,000.00 combined.) Please notify me when you have come to
13	a conclusion regarding the disbursement of the remaining limits.
14	Defendants argue that the November 12, 2020, letter sent to Plaintiffs' counsel constituted valid
15	acceptance of the settlement offer and request that this Court enforce the agreement.
16	This Court disagrees. Acceptance of an offer is a manifestation of assent to the terms thereof
17	made by the offeree in a manner invited or required by the offer. <i>Eagle Materials, Inc. v. Stiren</i> , 127
18	Nev. 1131, 373 P.3d 911 (2011) (citing RESTATEMENT 2D OF CONTRACTS § 50 (1981)). Where an
19	offer invites an offeree to accept by rendering a performance [a] contract is created when the
20	offeree tenders or begins the invited performance. Id. (citing RESTATEMENT 2D OF CONTRACTS § 45
21	(1981)). Where the offer requires acceptance by performance and does not invite a return promise
22	a contract can by created only by the offeree's performance. RESTATEMENT 2D OF CONTRACTS § 45
23	(1981). A mere promise to perform, without actual performance, does not constitute valid acceptance
24	in such a situation. <i>Id</i> .

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Plaintiffs' October 22, 2020, settlement offer clearly states that the offer can only be accepted by performance accomplished prior to the expiration of the offer. It is undisputed that Defendants did not provide payment in the manner specified prior to the deadline. Accordingly, the essential element of acceptance is not present to form an enforceable contract, and Defendants' motion is DENIED.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 22nd day of April, 2021

DISTRICT JUDGE

69A 561 0F1D C529 Reviewed as the Market Bluth and content by: Judge

/s/ Christopher Beckstrom

Respectfully submitted by:

Daniel R. Price, Esq. (NV Bar No. 13564) Christopher Beckstrom, Esq. (NV Bar No. 14031) PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC 1404 S. Jones Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89146 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

DID NOT SIGN

Darrell D. Dennis, Esq. (NV Bar No. 006618) Michael R. Smith, Esq. (NV Bar No. 12641) LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP 6385 S. Rainbow Blvd., Ste 600 Las Vegas, NV 89118 Attorneys for Defendants

1	CSERV			
2		DISTRICT COURT		
3		K COUNTY, NEVADA		
4				
5				
6	Judith Salter, Plaintiff(s)	CASE NO: A-20-827003-C		
7	vs.	DEPT. NO. Department 6		
8	Edward Rodriguez Moya, Defendant(s)			
9				
10	Αυτοματερ	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE		
11				
12 13	Court. The foregoing Order Denying Motion was served via the court's electronic eFile			
14	Service Date: 4/22/2021			
15	Darrell Dennis	darrell.dennis@lewisbrisbois.com		
16	Carrie Dunham	carrie.dunham@lewisbrisbois.com		
17 18	Abigail Prince	abigail.prince@lewisbrisbois.com		
19	Michael Smith	michael.r.smith@lewisbrisbois.com		
20	Gabriela Mercado	gabriela.mercado@lewisbrisbois.com		
21	Price Beckstrom, PLLC Eservice	info@pbnv.law		
22				
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SOM PLLC	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	NEO Daniel R. Price (NV Bar No. 13564) Christopher Beckstrom (NV Bar No. 14031) PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC 1404 S. Jones Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89146 Phone: (702) 941-0503 Fax: (702) 832-4026 info@pbnv.law Attorneys for Plaintiffs DISTRICT C CLARK COUNTY JUDITH SALTER, individually; JOSHUA KANER, individually; and JOSHUA KANER as	
ROM	9	guardian and natural parent of SYDNEY KANER, a minor;	Dept. No.: 6
STI AT L	10	Plaintiffs,	
CK Y s	11	V.	
PRICE BECKSTROM PLC	12 13 14 15	EDWARD RODRIGUEZ MOYA, an individual; BERENICE DOMENZAIN-RODRIGUEZ, an individual; DOE OWNERS I-V; DOE DRIVERS I-V; ROE EMPLOYERS I-V and ROE COMPANIES I-V; Defendants.	
P	- 16	NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER DEN	YING DEFENDANTS' MOTION
	17	TO ENFORCE SETTLEM	
	18	TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES	
	19	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 22nd	d day of April, 2021, the Court entered an
	20	order denying Defendants' motion to enforce settleme	nt agreement, attached as Exhibit 1.
	21	Dated this 22nd day of April, 2021.	
	22	$\overline{\mathbf{D}}$	<u>/s/ Christopher Beckstrom</u> aniel R. Price (NV Bar No. 13564)
	23 24	C Pr 12	hristopher Beckstrom (NV Bar No. 14031) RICE BECKSTROM, PLLC 404 S. Jones Blvd.
		L	as Vegas, Nevada 89146
		— 1 —	0262
		Case Number: A-20-8270)03-C

	1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
	2	Pursuant to NRCP 5, NEFCR 9 and EDCR 8.05, I hereby certify that on the date indicated
	3	below I served the foregoing Notice of Entry of Order Denying Defendants' Motion to Enforce
	4	Settlement Agreement upon the following via electronic service:
	5	Darrell D. Dennis, Esq. (NV Bar No. 006618) Michael R. Smith, Esq. (NV Bar No. 12641)
	6	LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP 6385 S. Rainbow Blvd., Ste 600
	7	Las Vegas, NV 89118 Attorneys for Defendants
	8	
SON AW	9	Dated this 22nd day of April, 2021.
STI	10	/s/ Stephanie Amundsen
B ATTORNEYS AT LAW	11	An employee of PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC
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CE T o b	13	
PRI	14	
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EXHIBIT 1

EXHIBIT 1

		ELECTRONICALLY SI		
		4/22/2021 11:36 A	Electronically Filed	
			04/22/2021 11:36 A	M
			CLERK OF THE COURT	-
	1	ORDR		
	-	Daniel R. Price (NV Bar No. 13564)		
	2	Christopher Beckstrom (NV Bar No. 14031)		
	3	PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC 1404 S. Jones Blvd.		
	3	Las Vegas, Nevada 89146		
	4	Phone: (702) 941-0503		
		Fax: (702) 832-4026		
	5	info@pbnv.law		
	6	Attorneys for Plaintiffs DISTRICT C	OURT	
	0	CLARK COUNTY		
	7			
U		JUDITH SALTER, individually; JOSHUA	Case No.: A-20-827003-C	
TI	8	KANER, individually; and JOSHUA KANER as	Dont No. 6	
\mathbf{N}	9	guardian and natural parent of SYDNEY KANER, a minor;	Dept. No.: 6	
	,			
	10	Plaintiffs,		
RICE BECKSTROM MIC	11	, T		
C s	11	V.		
E E	12	EDWARD RODRIGUEZ MOYA, an individual;		
	1.0	BERENICE DOMENZAIN-RODRIGUEZ, an		
ΞŌ	13	individual; DOE OWNERS I-V; DOE DRIVERS I-V; ROE EMPLOYERS I-V and		
IC	14	ROE COMPANIES I-V;		
Ц Ч				
	15	Defendants.		
	- 16			\rightarrow
	10	ORDER DENYING DEFI	ENDANTS' MOTION	
	17	TO ENFORCE SETTLEN		
	10	THIS COURT upon review of the peners and pleadings on file in this Metter hereby		
	18	THIS COURT, upon review of the papers and pleadings on file in this Matter, hereby		
	19	DENIES Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement and finds and orders as follows:		
	20	This Court FINDS this matter arises from a me	otor vehicle collision which occurred on July	
	21	25, 2020. This Court further finds Defendants' auto in	surance carrier. GEICO Advantage Insurance	
	22	Company ("GEICO") was authorized to act on Defend	dants' behalf to negotiate a settlement under th	e
	23	inguring agreement		
	23	insuring agreement.		
	24			
			0265	
		———————————————————————————————————————		1

Case Number: A-20-827003-C

1	This Court further FINDS counsel for Plaintiffs served an unambiguous pre-litigation
2	settlement offer to GEICO on October 22, 2020, requiring acceptance by performance and including
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13	a conclusion regarding the disbursement of the remaining limits.
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15	acceptance of the settlement offer and request that this Court enforce the agreement.
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18	Nev. 1131, 373 P.3d 911 (2011) (citing RESTATEMENT 2D OF CONTRACTS § 50 (1981)). Where an
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IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 22nd day of April, 2021

DISTRICT JUDGE

69A 561 0F1D C529 Reviewed as the Market Bluth and content by: Judge

/s/ Christopher Beckstrom

Respectfully submitted by:

Daniel R. Price, Esq. (NV Bar No. 13564) Christopher Beckstrom, Esq. (NV Bar No. 14031) PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC 1404 S. Jones Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89146 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

DID NOT SIGN

Darrell D. Dennis, Esq. (NV Bar No. 006618) Michael R. Smith, Esq. (NV Bar No. 12641) LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP 6385 S. Rainbow Blvd., Ste 600 Las Vegas, NV 89118 Attorneys for Defendants

1	CSERV	
2	I	DISTRICT COURT
3		K COUNTY, NEVADA
4		
5		
6	Judith Salter, Plaintiff(s)	CASE NO: A-20-827003-C
7	vs.	DEPT. NO. Department 6
8 9	Edward Rodriguez Moya, Defendant(s)	
10		
11	AUTOMATEI	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
12	This automated certificate of s	service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District
13	Court. The foregoing Order Denying	Motion was served via the court's electronic eFile e-Service on the above entitled case as listed below:
14	Service Date: 4/22/2021	
15	Darrell Dennis	darrell.dennis@lewisbrisbois.com
16	Carrie Dunham	carrie.dunham@lewisbrisbois.com
17 18	Abigail Prince	abigail.prince@lewisbrisbois.com
19	Michael Smith	michael.r.smith@lewisbrisbois.com
20	Gabriela Mercado	gabriela.mercado@lewisbrisbois.com
21	Price Beckstrom, PLLC Eservice	info@pbnv.law
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		3/19/2021 3:08 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT
1	MRCN	Alump. Ann
2	DARRELL D. DENNIS	
2	Nevada Bar No. 006618	
3	MICHAEL R. SMITH Nevada Bar No. 12641	
4	LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LI	р
4	6385 S. Rainbow Boulevard, Suite 600	
5	Las Vegas, Nevada 89118	
6	Telephone: 702.893.3383 Facsimile: 702.893.3789	
	E-Mail: <u>Darrell.Dennis@lewisbrisbois.com</u>	
7	E-Mail: <u>Michael.R.Smith@lewisbrisbois.com</u>	
8	Attorneys for Defendants	
9		
10	FICHTH HUDICIAL	L DISTRICT COURT
11		NTY, NEVADA
12		NII, NEVADA
13	JUDITH SALTER, individually; JOSHUA KANER, individually; and JOSHUA KANER	Case No. A-20-827003-C
14	as guardian and natural parent of SYDNEY KANER, a minor;	Dept. No.: VI
15	Plaintiffs,	(HEARING REQUESTED)
16	VS.	MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF
17	EDWARD RODRIGUEZ MOYA, an	COURT'S MARCH 15, 2021 MINUTE
18	individual; BERENICE DOMENZIAN- RODRIGUEZ, an individual; DOE OWNERS	ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO ENFORCE SETTLEMENT
	I-V; DOE DRIVERS I-V; and ROE	AGREEMENT
19	COMPANIES I-V;	
20	Defendants.	
21	COME NOW, Defendants EDWAR	RD RODRIGUEZ MOYA and BERENICE
22	DOMENZIAN-RODRIGUEZ (hereinafter referre	ed to collectively as "Defendants"), by and through
23	their counsel of record, the law office of LEW	IS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH, LLP, and
24	hereby files the instant Motion for Reconsiderat	ion of the Court's March 15, 2021, Minute Order
25	denying Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settleme	ent Agreement.
26	///	
27	///	
28	///	
		0269

Electronically Filed

~

1	This Motion is made and based on the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities,
2	including exhibits, the papers and pleadings on file with the Court, and any oral argument the Court
3	may entertain at time of Hearing.
4	
5	DATED this <u>19th</u> day of March, 2021.
6	LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP
7	By: [s] Michael R. Smith
8	DARRELL D. DENNIS Nevada Bar No. 006618
9	MICHAEL R. SMITH Nevada Bar No. 12641
10	6385 S. Rainbow Boulevard, Suite 600 Las Vegas, Nevada 89118
11	Attorneys for Defendants
12 13	
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4849-7628-8481.1

1	MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES
2	I.
3	FACTS AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY
4	A. Underlying Facts
5	The subject lawsuit is the result of an alleged two-vehicle collision stated to have occurred
6	on July 25, 2020. According to plaintiffs JUDITH SALTER, JOSHUA KAMER, and minor
7	SYDNEY KAMER (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Plaintiffs"), they were "rear-ended" by
8	a vehicle operated by Defendant EDWARD RODRIGUEZ MOYA, and owned jointly by Defendant
9	EDWARD RODRIGUEZ MOYA and his wife, Defendant BERENICE DOMINZIAN-
10	RODRIGUEZ.
11	No police were summoned to the scene. (See, NRS § 484E.070(2) which provides no police
12	report is necessary if the apparent damage is less than \$750.00.)
13	Neither vehicle sustained visibly discernable damage. (See, photographs of Plaintiffs'
14	vehicle, attached hereto as Exhibit "A." See also, Photographs of Defendants' vehicle, attached
15	hereto as Exhibit "B.")
16	Prior to filing the instant lawsuit, counsel for the plaintiffs requested information from
17	Defendants' insurer. (See, Plaintiffs' Counsel Letter to Defendants' Insurer, dated July 28 and 29,
18	2020, attached hereto collectively as Exhibit "C.")
19	In response to this request, Defendants' Insurer informed plaintiffs of Defendants' insurance
20	policy limits of \$25,000.00 per person/ \$50,000.00 per occurrence. (See, Defendants' Automobile
21	Liability Insurer's Letter to Plaintiffs' Counsel dated September 4, 2020, attached hereto as Exhibit
22	"D.")
23	In response to this Defendants' Insurer's notification of the Defendants' automobile liability
24	policy insurance, plaintiffs' counsel sent a "time-sensitive demand letter" to Defendants' insurer in
25	which plaintiffs' counsel demanded the Defendants' entire per occurrence policy limit, to be split
26	among three individuals (one of which is a minor). (See, Plaintiffs' Time-Sensitive Settlement Offer
27	to Defendants' insurer dated October 22, 2020, attached hereto sans exhibits as Exhibit "E.")
28	



In response to the plaintiffs' demand, Defendants' automobile liability policy insurer agreed
 to provide the "per occurrence" policy limit to plaintiffs' counsel, subject to the restrictions imposed
 on the policy and by Nevada Law. (*See*, Defendants' Automobile Liability Insurer's Letter to
 Plaintiffs' Counsel dated November 12, 2020, attached hereto as Exhibit "F.")

5 Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier was acting to perform under the plaintiffs'6 offer.

Plaintiffs' counsel did not respond to Defendants' automobile liability insurer's efforts to
perform under plaintiffs' demand until several weeks after the "performance period" lapsed. After
remaining silent, plaintiffs' counsel responded by stating his belief that Defendants' insurer's
reliance on the language of NRS § 485.185 was a rejection and counter-offer. (*See*, Plaintiffs'
Counsel rejection letter dated December 1, 2020, attached hereto as Exhibit "G.")

12 Defendants assert that Defendants and their automobile liability insurance carrier could not 13 have performed by presenting a single check for three individual claimants, especially as one claimant was a minor.¹ Due to the limitations placed on Defendants' automobile liability insurance 14 15 carrier by Nevada Law, performance of plaintiffs' demand was not possible without clarification of 16 the issues presented in Defendants' Automobile Liability Insurer's Letter dated November 12, 2020. 17 (Ex. F.) By failing to respond to Defendants' Automobile Liability Insurer's request for instructions 18 to allow for compliance with Nevada Law, plaintiffs' counsel actively thwarted Defendants' ability 19 to perform under the plaintiffs' offer.

As a consequence of plaintiffs' counsel's intentional acts preventing Defendants'
performance under the offer, Defendants filed a Motion to Enforce Settlement, which the District
Court denied without hearing.

23

28

B. Court Order

The District Court issued a Minute Order on Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement on March 15, 2021. (*See*, District Court Minute Order dated March 15, 2021, attached hereto as Exhibit "H.") The matter was scheduled for Hearing for March 17, 2021, but the Court's Minute Order

¹ See, Nevada Revised Statutes § 41.200 and § 485.185, discussed herein.

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1 resulted in the March 17, 2021, Hearing being vacated.

In the District Court's Minute Order, the District Court stated plaintiffs' offer could only be accepted by performance, that is, by providing a single settlement check to plaintiffs' counsel for three claimants (one of whom was and is a minor), by the date and time presented in the offer. (*Id.*) The District Court acknowledged the Defendants' insurer's request for information, and stated this was not performance. (*Id.*) The District Court cited the Restatement (Second) of Contracts and said, "A mere promise to perform, without actual performance, does not constitute valid acceptance in such a situation." (*Id.*)

9 The District Court did not address the requirements for a compromise of minor's claim as
10 requested by Defendants' automobile liability insurance provider, despite this being a required under
11 Nevada Law. (See, NRS § 41.200.)

The District Court did not address the limitations of automobile liability insurance policies
as articulated by NRS § 485.185.

The District Court did not address the Defendants' automobile liability insurer's attempts to
comply with state law and plaintiffs' counsel's silence as to instructions on rectifying the issues
prior to the date for acceptance.

By failing to address Defendants' insurer's legitimate legal concerns in complying with plaintiffs' demand, the District Court did not provide a method by which Defendants' insurer could perform under the contract and still maintain compliance with Nevada Law. Before the ink was dry on the Nevada Constitution, the Nevada Supreme Court stated "Courts will not enforce illegal contracts." (*See*, <u>Drexler v. Tyrrell</u>, 15 Nev. 114 (1880).)

By failing to address plaintiffs' counsel's silence in response to Defendants' automobile
liability insurance carrier's efforts to legal comply with plaintiffs' demand, the District Court has
failed to provide necessary guidance on how defendants and their insurers should address illegal
and impossible demands in the future.

As such, the instant Motion for Reconsideration is necessary.

- 27 ///
- 28 ///

26

1	II.
2	LEGAL ARGUMENT
3	Defendants contend the District Court failed to fully evaluate the plaintiffs' offer, the
4	inherent restrictions placed on Defendants' insurer in accepting the offer, the Defendants' insurer's
5	good faith efforts to perform under the plaintiff's offer, and plaintiffs' counsel's calculated silence
6	in preventing Defendants' insurer from performing under the offer, such that the failure to consider
7	these factors results in the District Court's March 15, 2021, Minute Order being clearly erroneous
8	such that reconsideration is necessary.
9	A. The District Court is Authorized to Reconsider, Amend, and Make
10	Additional Findings at Any Time Prior to Final Judgment.
11	The District Court has inherent authority to reconsider its rulings at any time prior to final
12	judgment. (See, Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure ("NRCP"), Rule 54.)
13	District Courts may consider a previously decided issue "if substantially different evidence
14	is subsequently introduced or the decision was clearly erroneous." (See, Masonry & Tile
15	Contractors Assoc. v. Jolley, Urga & Witrth Ass'n., 113 Nev. 737, 741, 941 P.2d 486, 489 (1997).)
16	Eighth Judicial District Court Rules ("EDCR"), Rule 2.24 anticipates and provides for
17	rehearing of motions and reconsiderations of District Court rulings. As stated by the Nevada
18	Supreme Court in <i>Trail v. Faretto</i> , 91 Nev. 401, 403, 536 P.2d 1026, 1027 (1975), "[A] court may,
19	for sufficient cause shown, amend, correct, resettle, modify, or vacate, as the case may be, an order
20	previously made and entered on motion in the progress of the cause or proceeding."
21	Defendants acknowledge that granting a motion for reconsideration is an extraordinary
22	remedy, but feel it is necessary in the present matter.
23	B. The District Court's Minute Order Should Be Reconsidered As The
24	Court Did Not Address Considerations Necessary For Decision, Such That the Order is Clearly Erroneous.
25	The plaintiffs' demand required performance, by presenting a single check in the amount of
26	Defendants' automobile liability insurance policy's single occurrence limits, to plaintiffs' counsel
27	by a date certain. (Ex. F.) The District Court determined that the only way Defendants' insurer
28	could perform under this contract was by providing the entire "per-occurrence" policy limits to
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1 plaintiffs' counsel by the date provided. (Ex. H.)

2

Nevada Revised Statutes § 485.185

The Court did not address Defendants' insurer's questions to plaintiffs' counsel concerning
the defendant's automobile liability policy's single person limits which were presented in both
Defendants' Automobile Liability Insurer's Letter dated September 4, 2020 and Defendants'
Automobile Liability Insurer's Letter dated November 12, 2020. (Ex. H.)

The Defendants' insurer's request was to allow compliance with NRS § 485.185 (Nevada's minimum automobile liability insurance coverage statute), which states, Nevada automobile operators are required to maintain liability insurance "In the amount of \$25,000 for bodily injury or death of one person in any one crash" and "Subject to the limit for one person, in the amount of \$50,000.00 for bodily injury to or death of two or more persons in any one crash." (See, NRS § 485.185.)

This law provides that Nevada automobile operators must carry a certain level of liability insurance coverage; Nevada automobile operators must carry automobile liability insurance which provides coverage of \$25,000.00 per person, and \$50,000.00 per event, subject to the limitation that in any single event, no individual will receive more than \$25,000.00.

In the instant matter, Defendants' automobile liability insurer wanted guidance on how to
issue checks to plaintiffs' counsel to allow for compliance with this law. (Ex. F.) Defendants'
insurer's need for compliance with this law was not a surprise to plaintiffs' counsel, as Defendants'
insurer informed plaintiffs' counsel of this limitation before plaintiffs' made their demand. (Ex. D.)

By stating that Defendants' insurer was required to perform an illegal act, the District Court
is ignoring state law and stating illegal contracts are valid.

At best, the District Court failed to address the legal limitations placed on Defendants' insurer in responding to plaintiffs' demand, and this failure to consider the legal limitations placed on Defendants' insurer warrants reconsideration.

26

Nevada Revised Statutes § 41.200

27 Nevada Revised Statutes § 41.200 is Nevada's Minor's Compromise Claim Statute, which
28 was designed to protect those minors who have legitimate claims against third-party tortfeasors.



(*See*, NRS § 41.200.)

In the District Court's Minute Order, the Defendants' insurer's concerns about compliance
with Nevada Law concerning the protection of minors was not addressed. The District Court's
Minute Order did not address NRS § 41.200, the Defendants' insurers' request for compliance with
this law, or plaintiffs' counsel's silence as Defendants' counsel attempted to comply with this law.

6

Plaintiffs' Counsel's Silence

7 In attempting to perform under the plaintiffs' offer, Defendants' insurer timely requested
8 information to allow for tender of Defendants' per occurrence policy limit to plaintiffs' counsel.
9 (Ex. F.) This demonstrated acceptance of plaintiffs' material terms.

10 The District Court's Minute Order stated that the only was Defendants' insurer could accept the offer was by performance (by providing a single settlement check for the three plaintiffs). As 11 12 stated above, the District Court did not consider the legal barriers to performance in this manner. 13 The District Court did not state that the limitations on this performance, as timely presented to 14 plaintiffs' counsel during the "open offer" period, resulted in any burden on plaintiffs' counsel to respond to allow performance. As written, the District Court's Minute Order appears to invite 15 16 parties to present illegal and impossible demands, and then remain silent when legal and legitimate 17 concerns over performance are presented, only to later benefit from the illegal offer presented. The 18 plaintiffs' counsel's unclean hands in creating the current situation will act to encourage others to 19 follow in these footsteps.

20

21

III.

CONCLUSION

The District Court's Minute Order stated the only way Defendants' insurer could accept the plaintiffs' offer was to perform under the offer. The District Court's decision failed to consider the fact that strict performance under the plaintiffs' offer was impossible, as strict performance under the offered terms would be in violation of Nevada Law. The District Court's decision failed to consider the fact that Defendants' insurer attempted performance by attempting to satisfy the material terms of plaintiffs' demand in a legal manner. The District Court's decision failed to address plaintiffs' counsel's silence in responding to Defendants' insurer's attempt to perform under



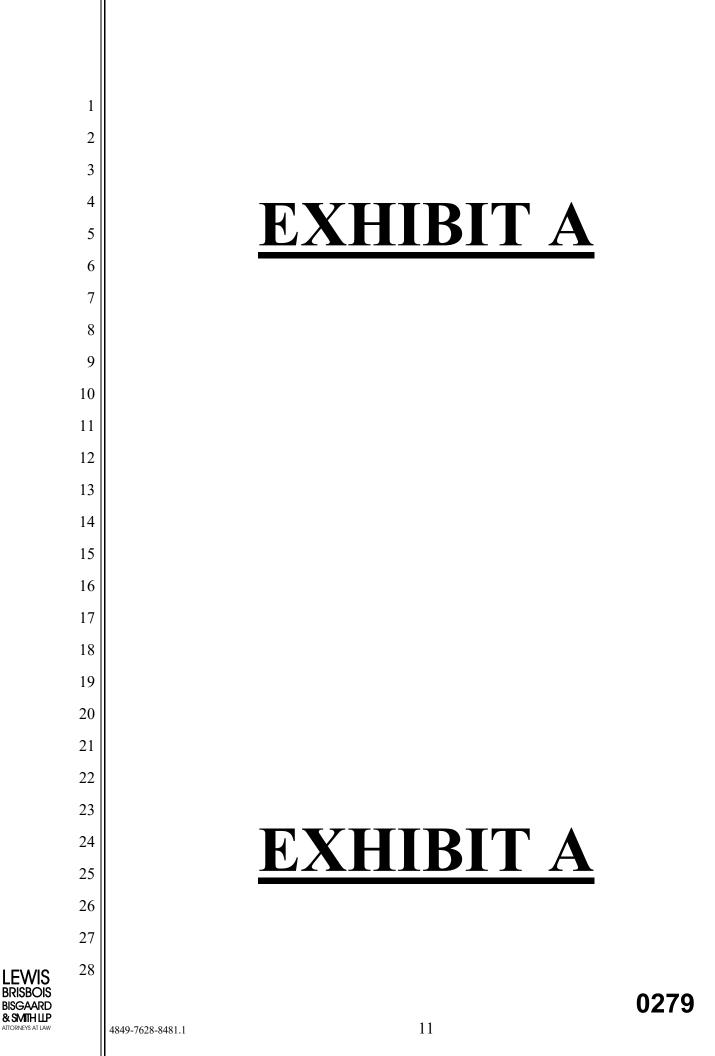
1 plaintiffs' demand in a legal manner.

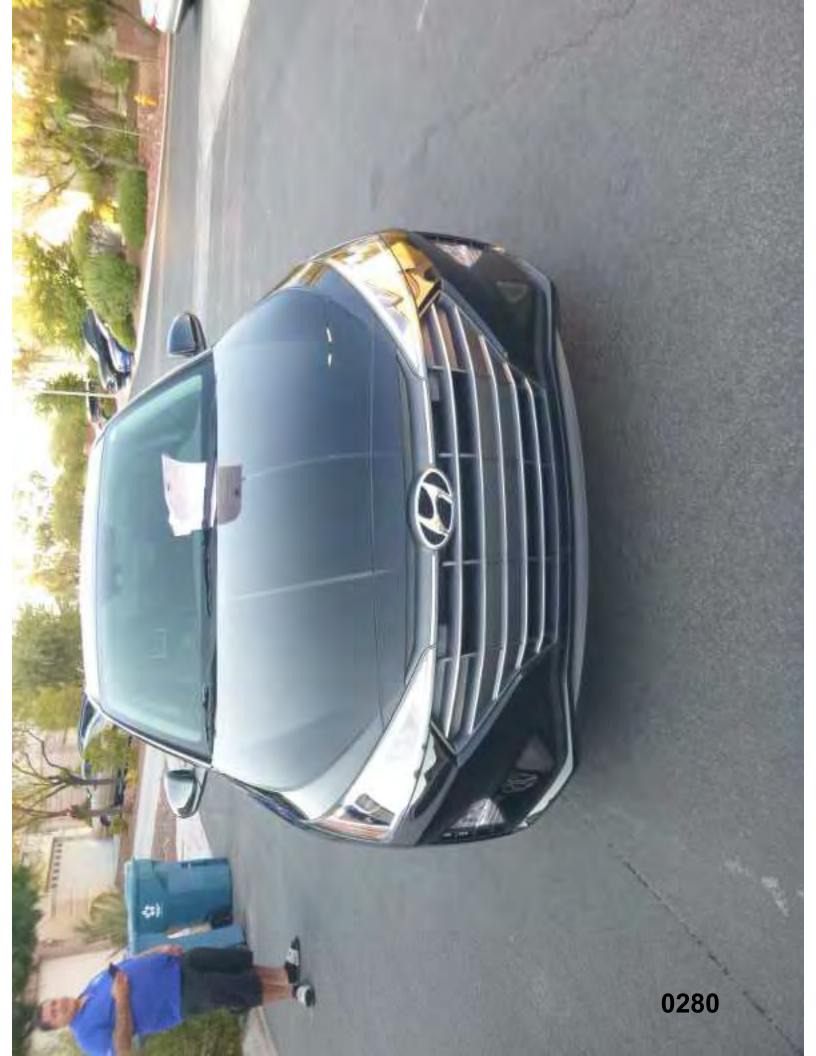
2	As such, Defendants respectfully request this Honorable Court to Reconsider the Court's
3	March 15, 2021, Minute Order denying Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement, and
4	allow Hearing on Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement.
5	DATED this 10th day of March 2021
6	DATED this <u>19th</u> day of March, 2021.
7	LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP
8	By: <u>/s/ Míchael R. Smíth</u> DARRELL D. DENNIS
9	Nevada Bar No. 006618 MICHAEL R. SMITH
10	Nevada Bar No. 12641
11	6385 S. Rainbow Boulevard, Suite 600 Las Vegas, Nevada 89118
12	Attorneys for Defendants
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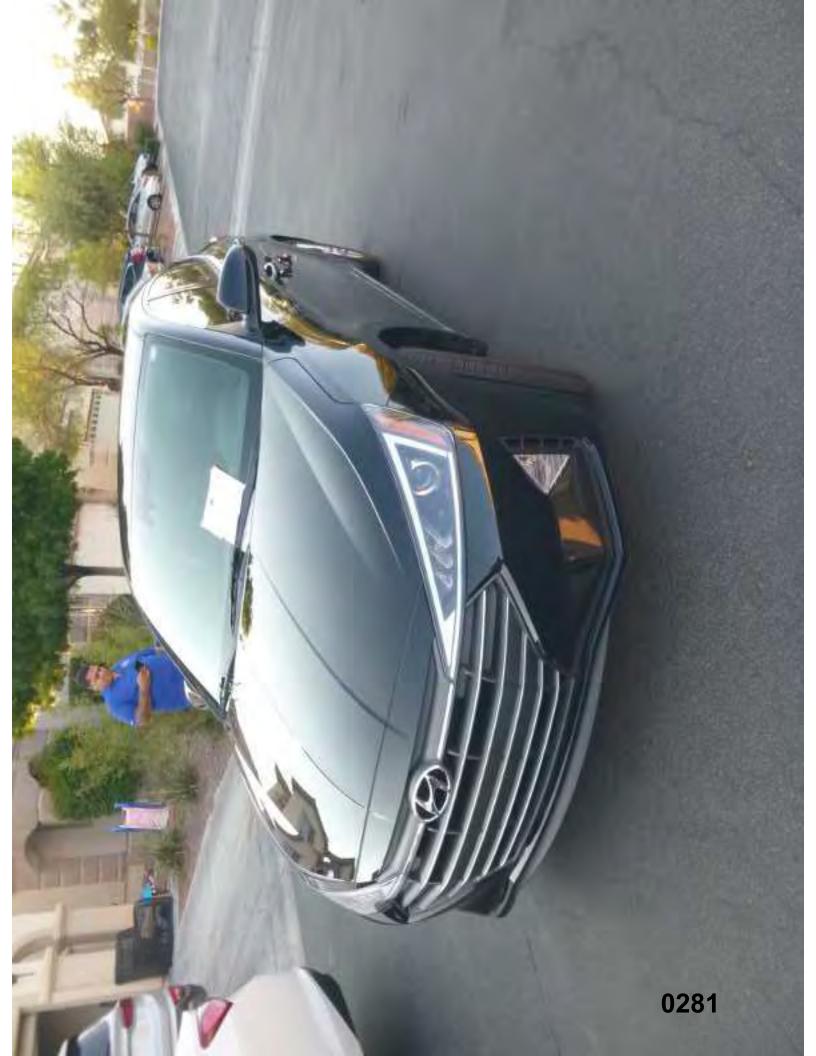


1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE		
2	Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee of LEWIS BRISBOIS		
3	BISGAARD & SMITH LLP and that on this 19th day of March, 2021, I did cause a true copy of the	:	
4	foregoing MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF COURT'S MARCH 15, 2021 MINUTE		
5	ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO ENFORCE SETTLEMENT		
6	AGREEMENT, to be served via the Court's electronic filing and service system to all parties on the		
7	current service list.		
8	Daniel R. Price		
9	Christopher Beckstrom		
10	PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC 1404 South Jones Blvd.		
11	Las Vegas, NV 89146 Attorneys for Plaintiff		
12			
13			
14	By <u>/s/ Gabríela Mercado</u> Gabriela Mercado, An Employee of		
15	LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP		
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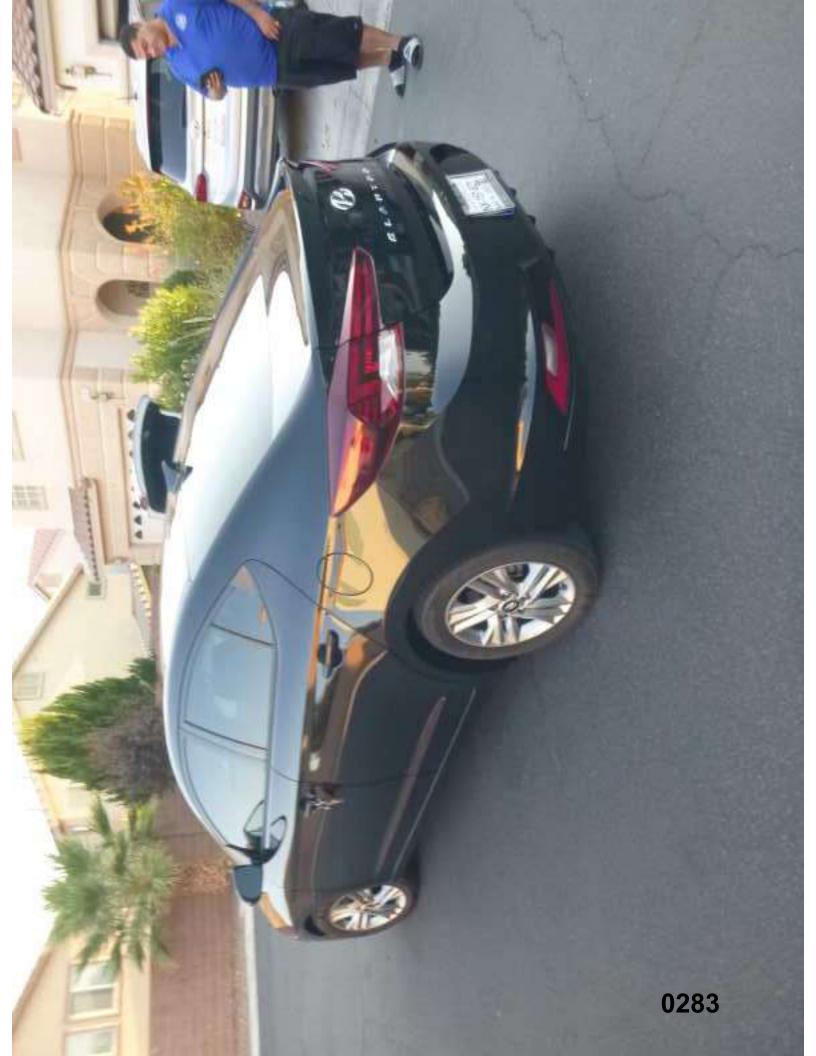
LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW



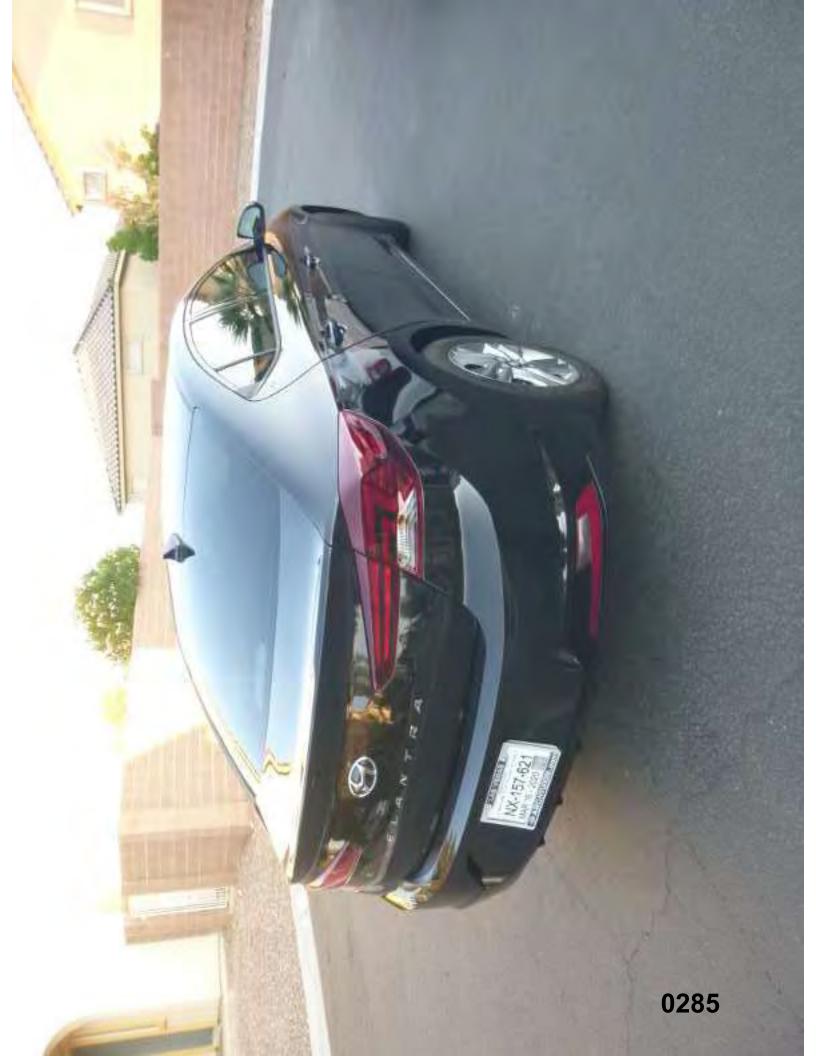


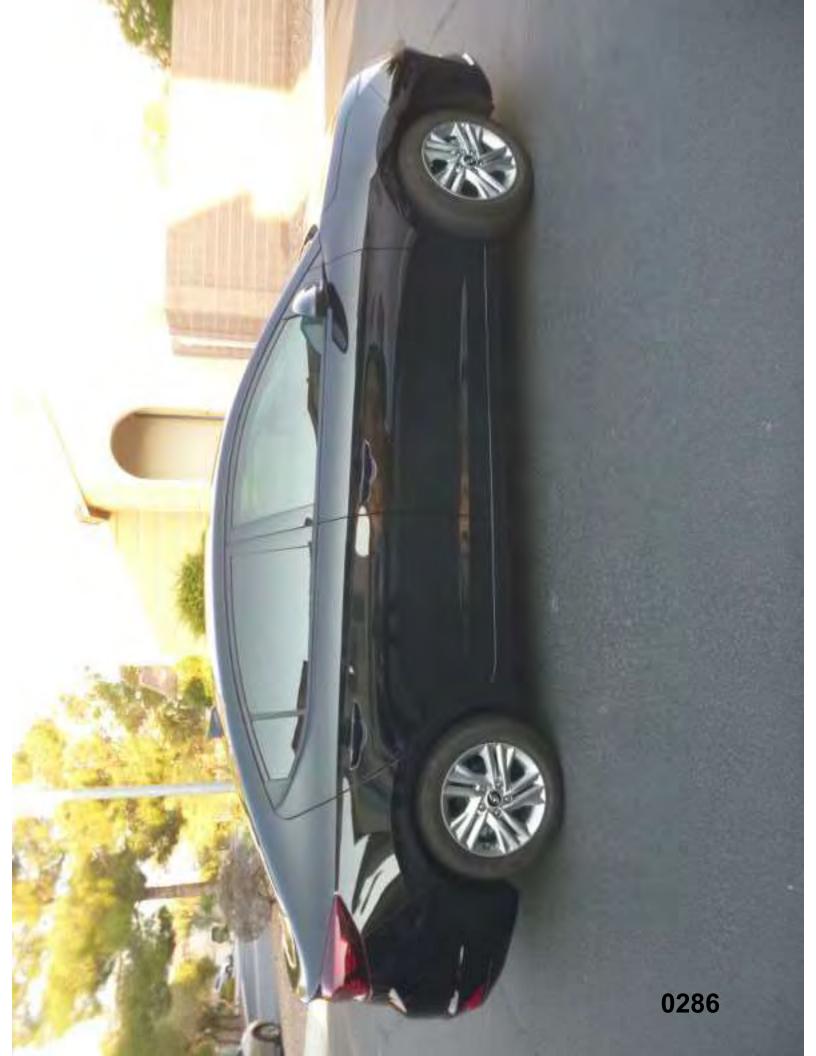


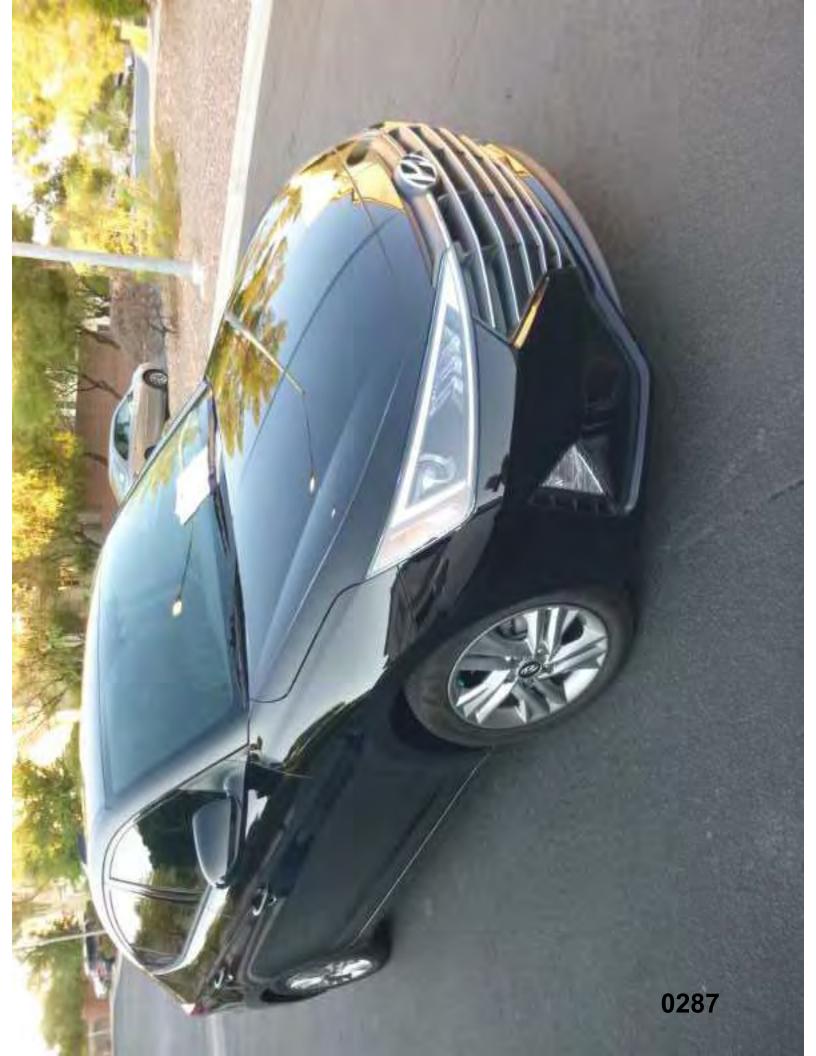


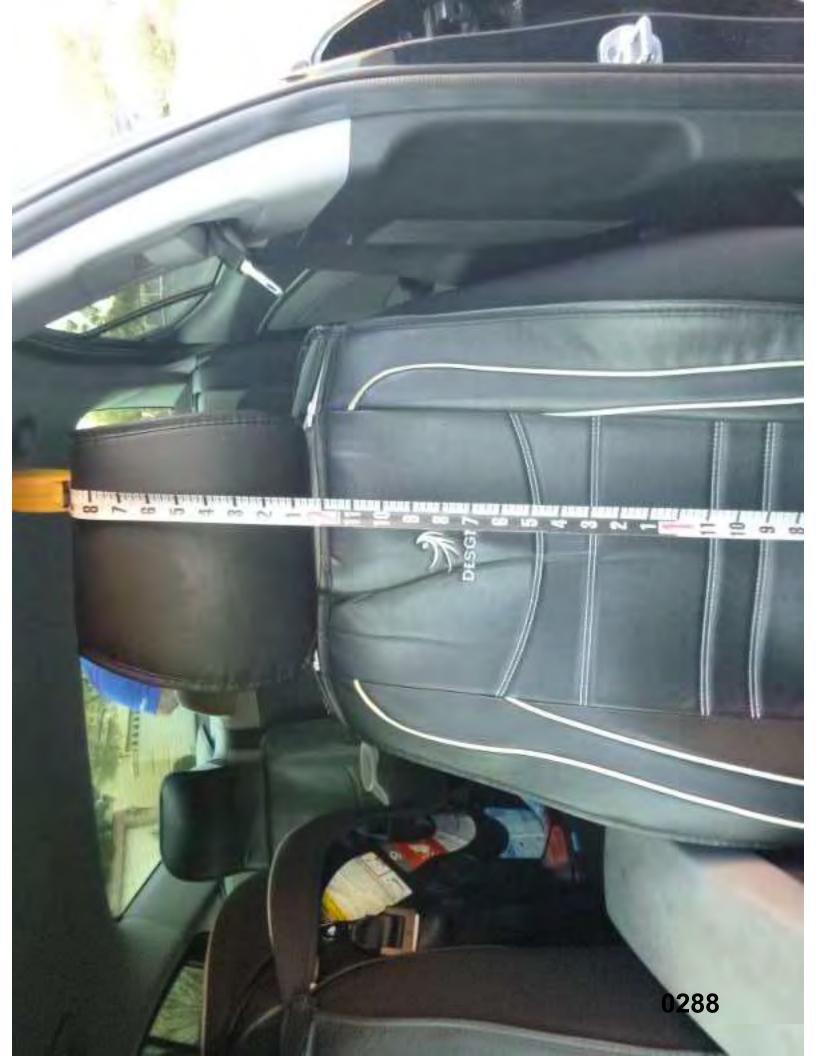




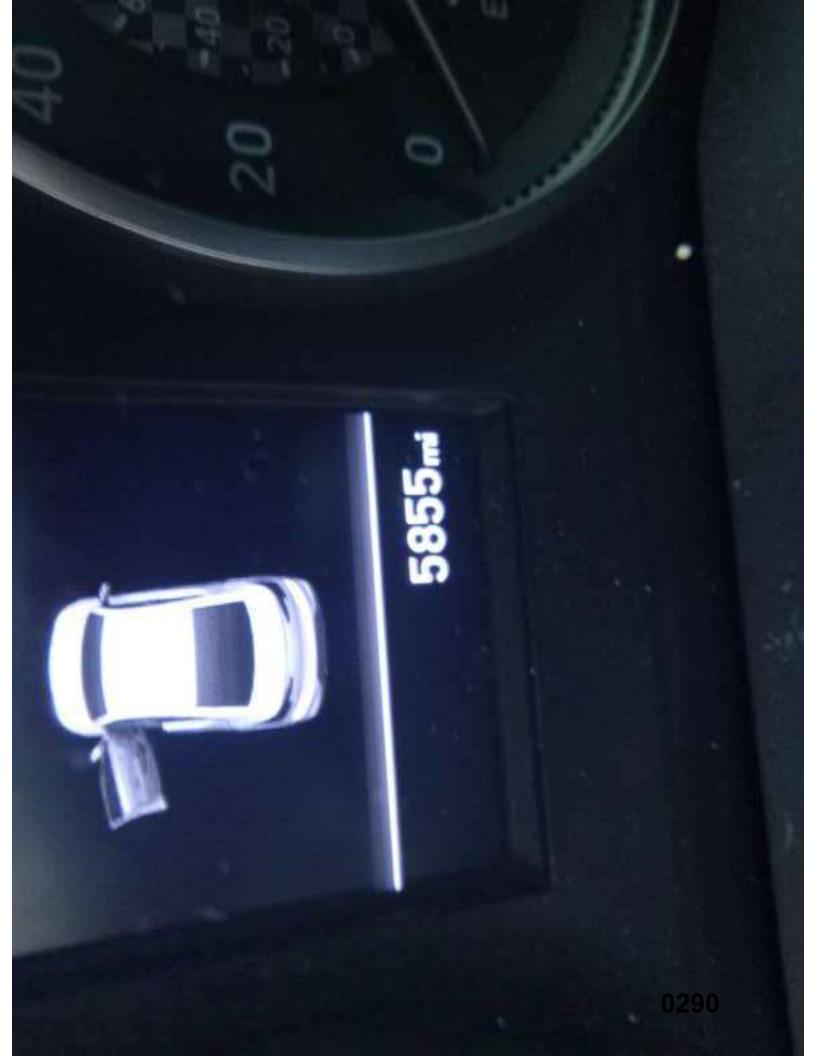








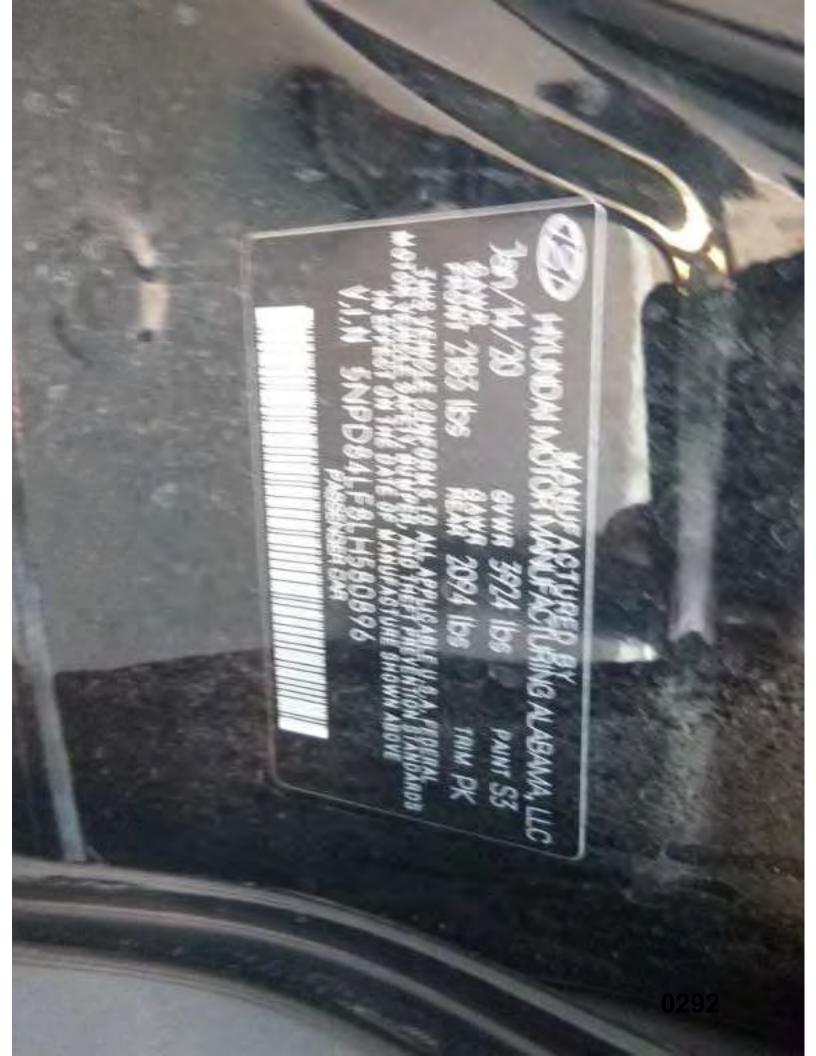


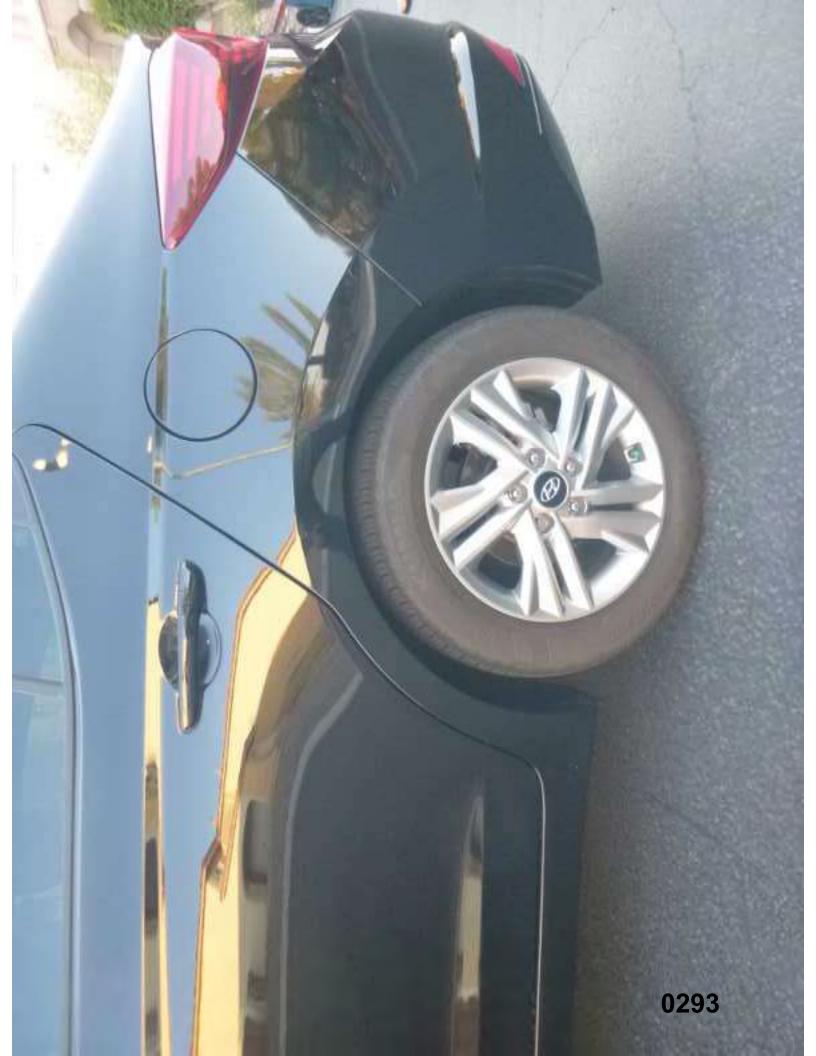


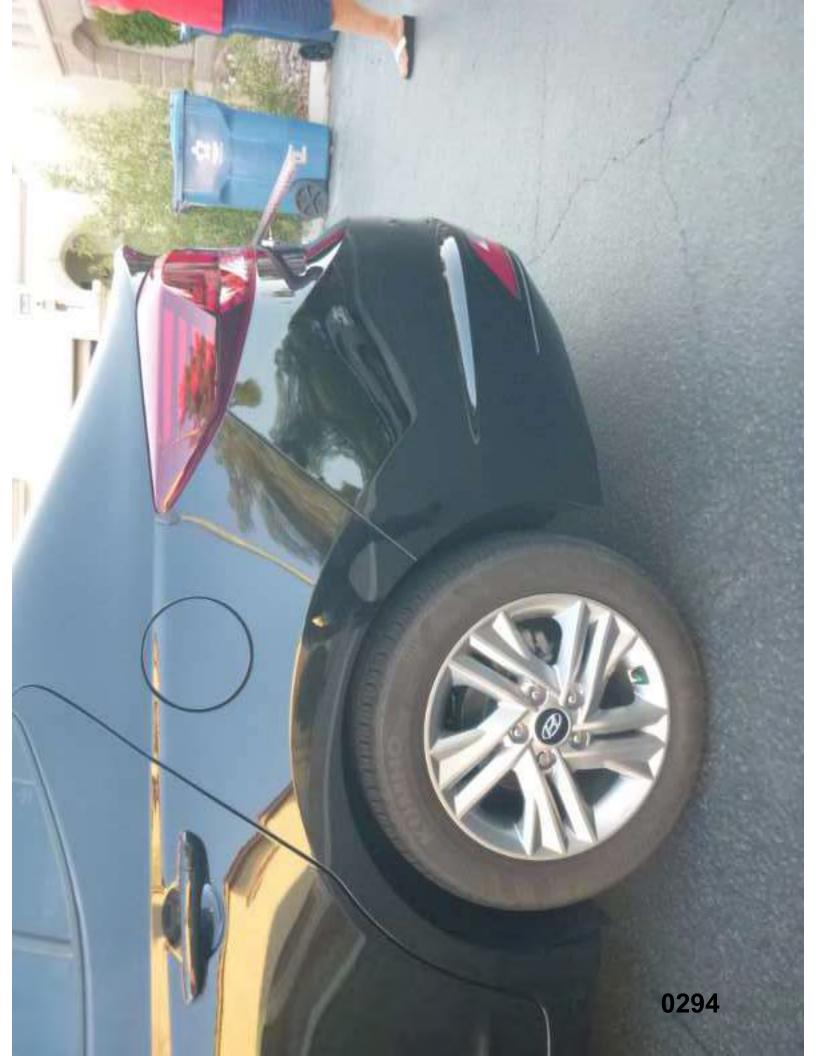
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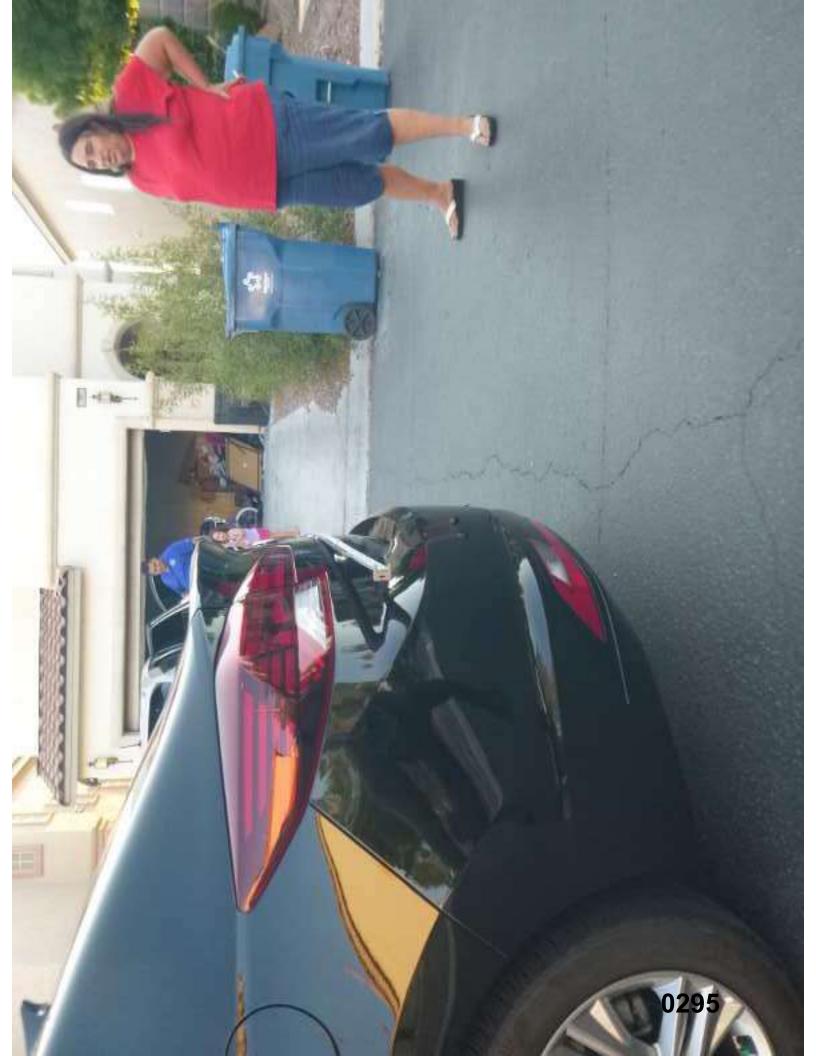
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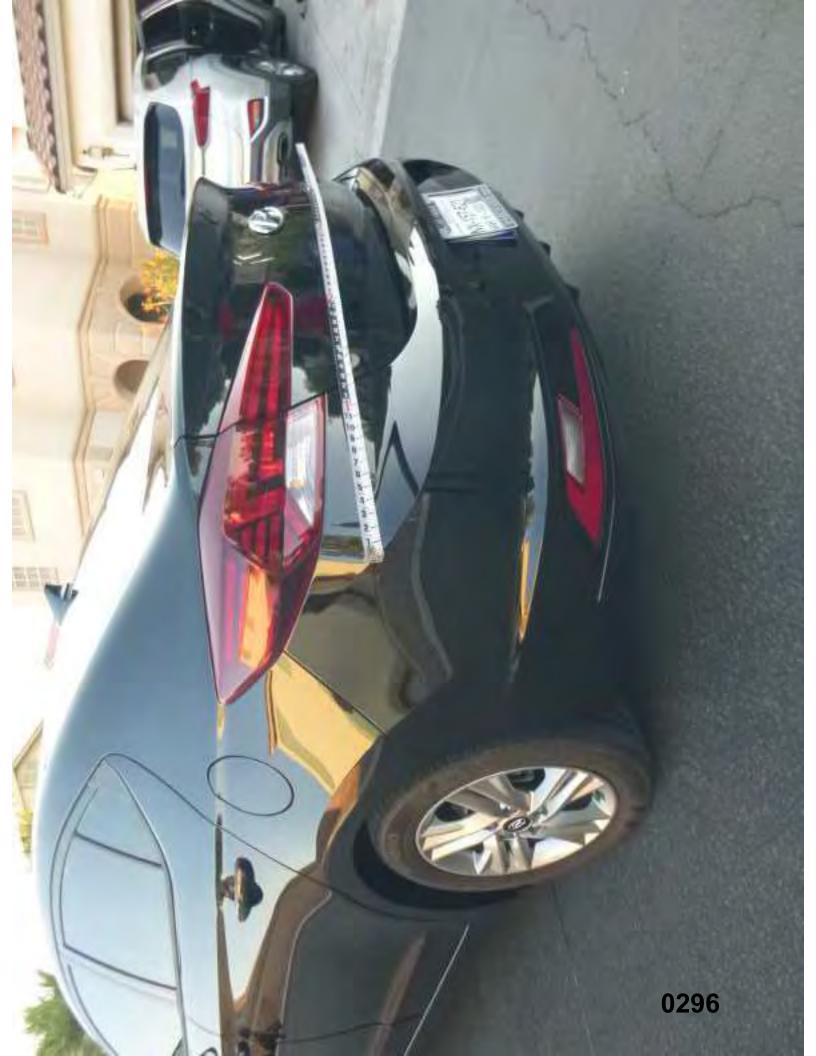
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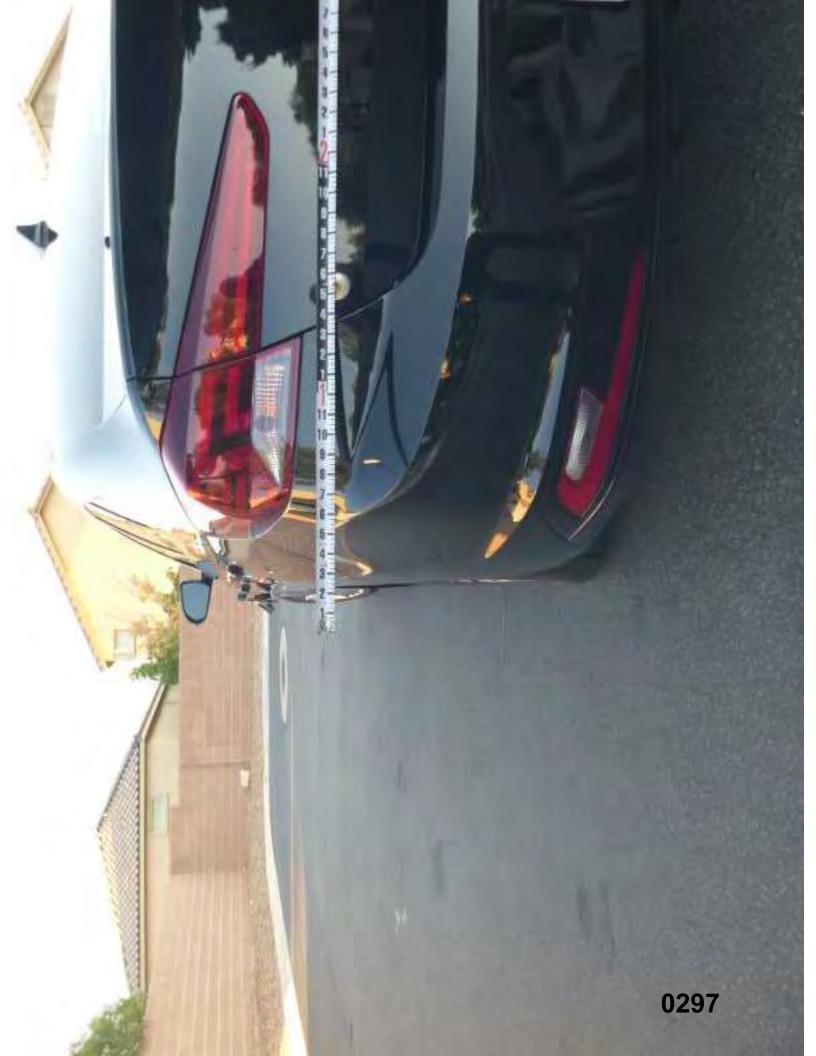


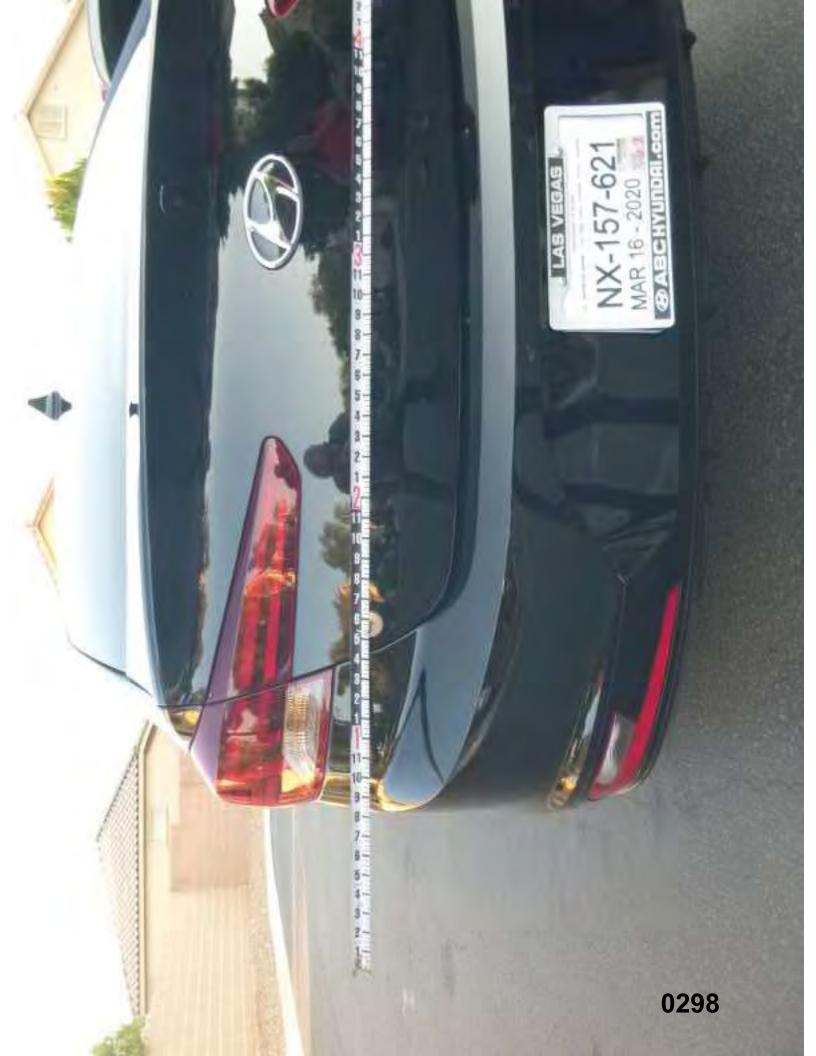


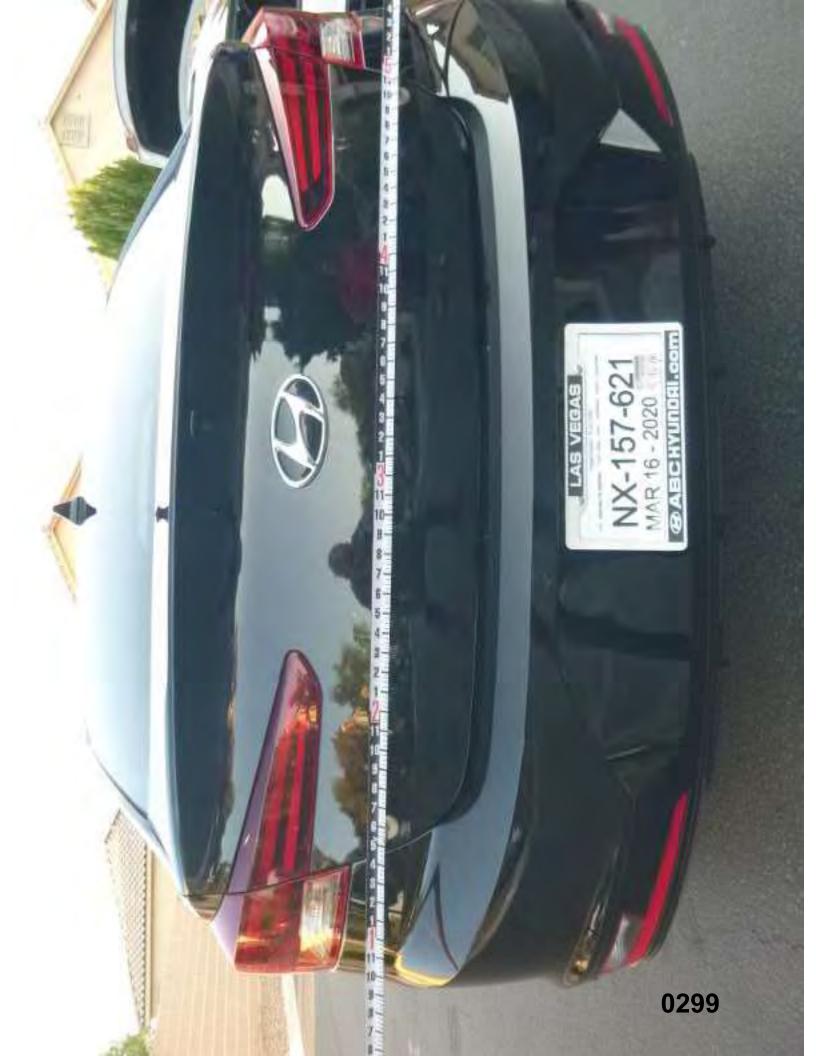


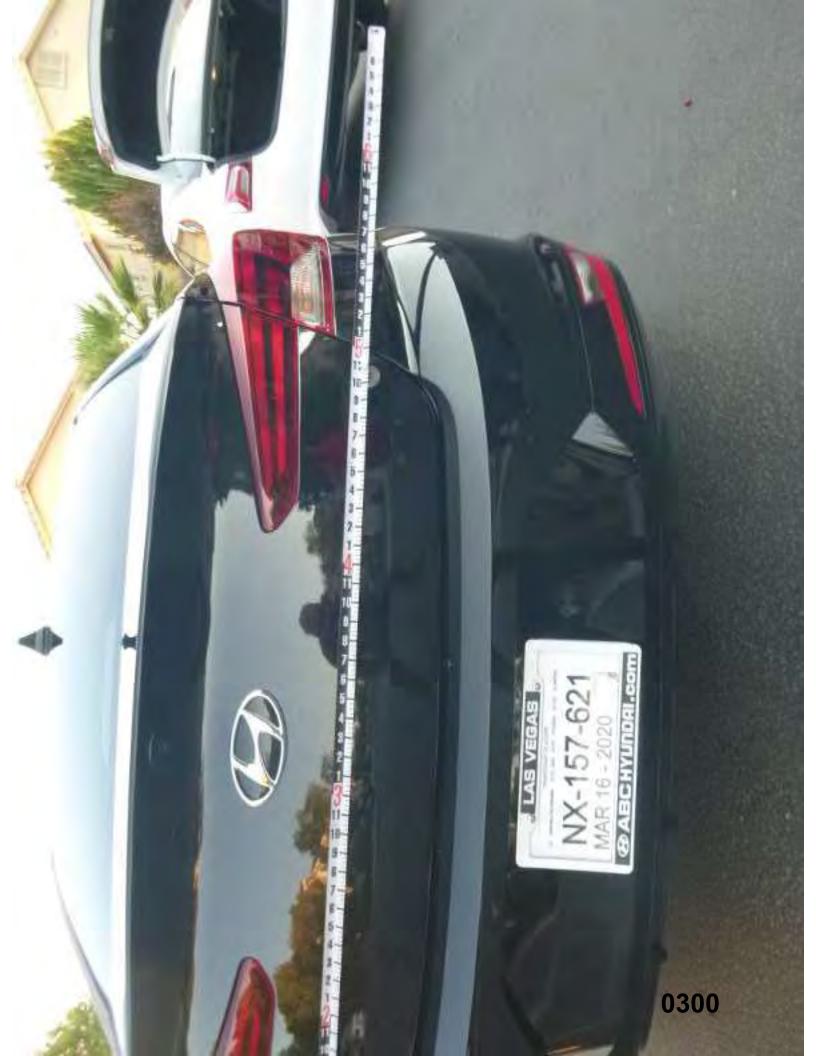




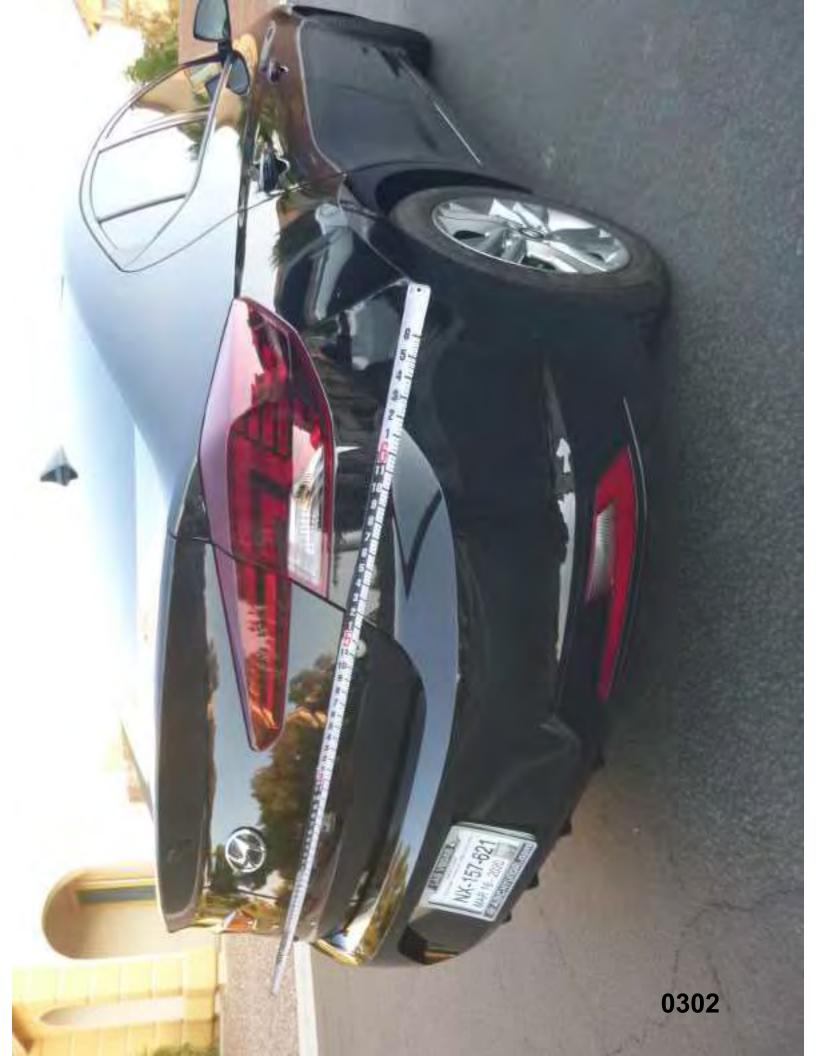


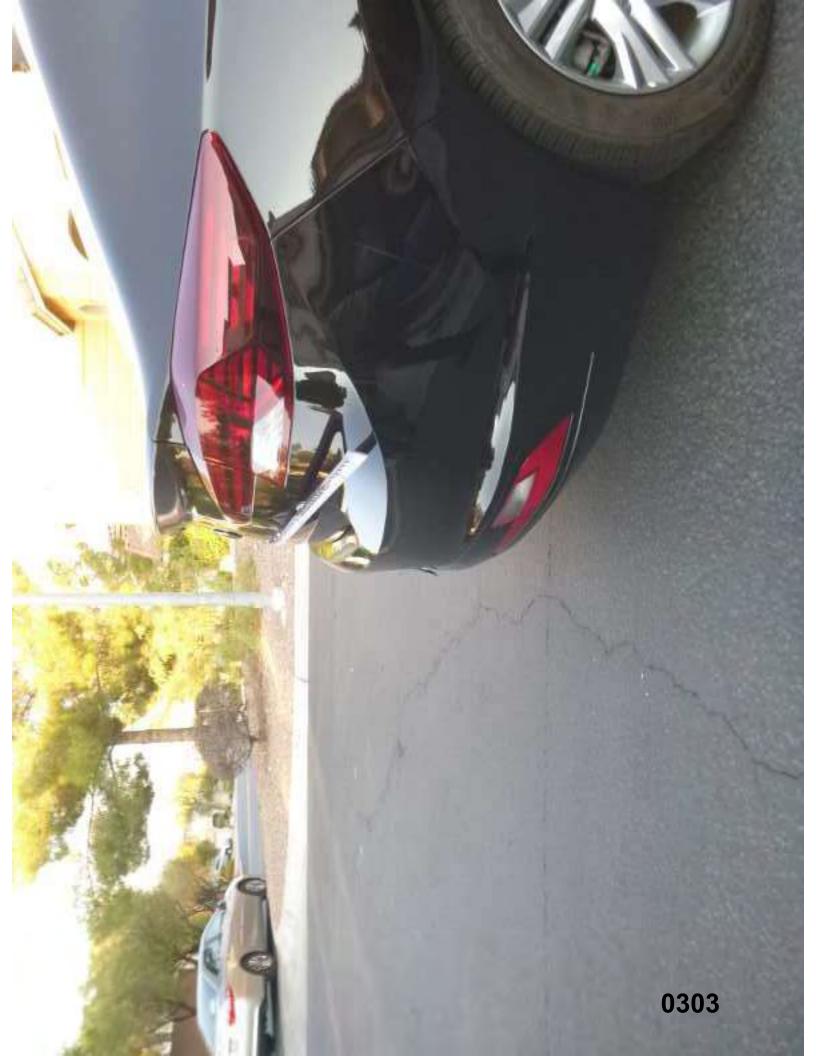


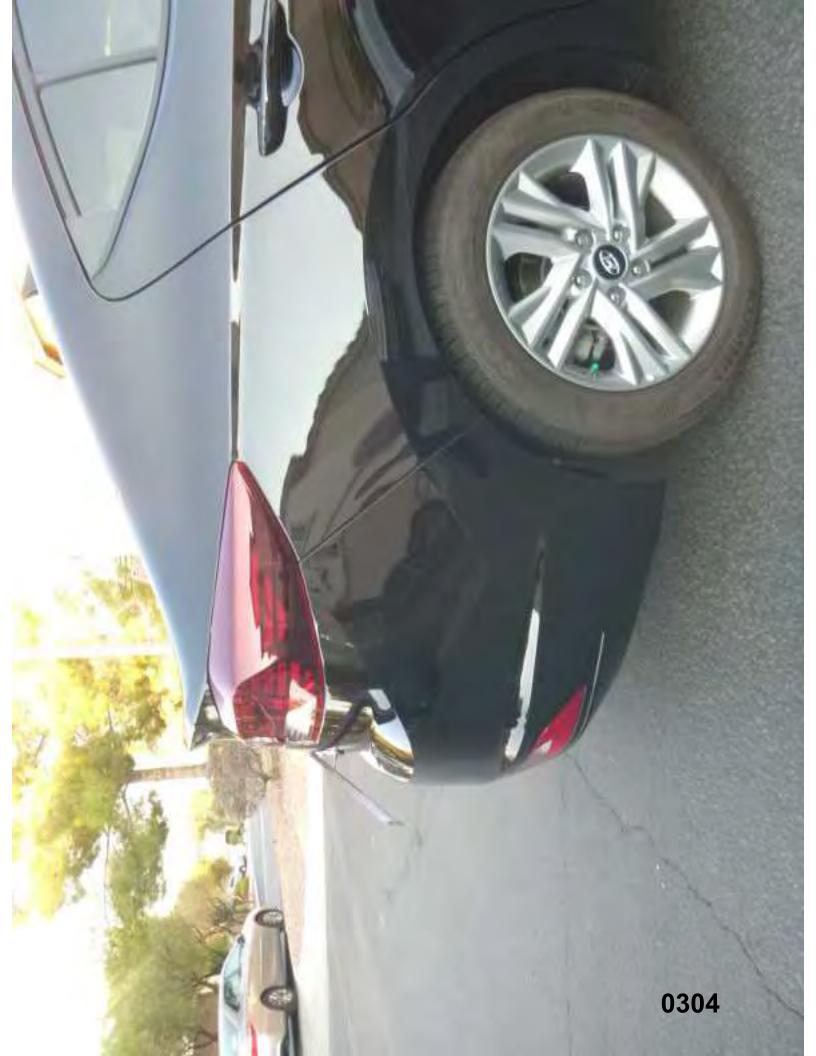


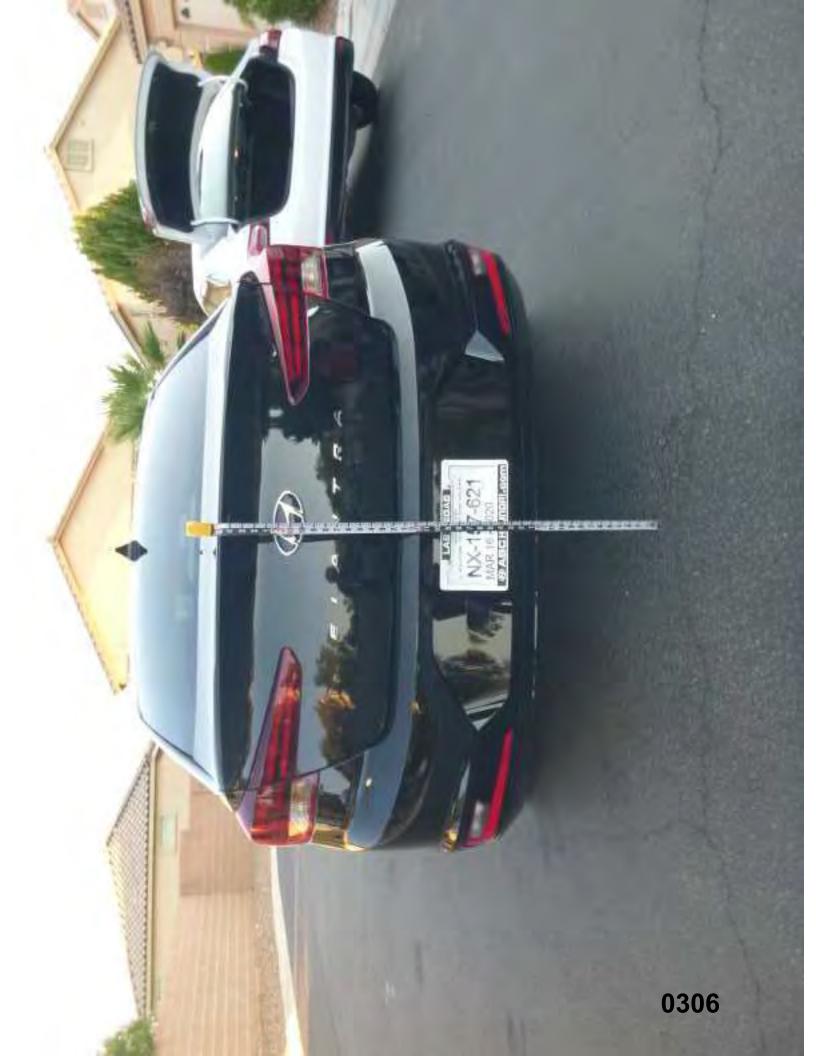














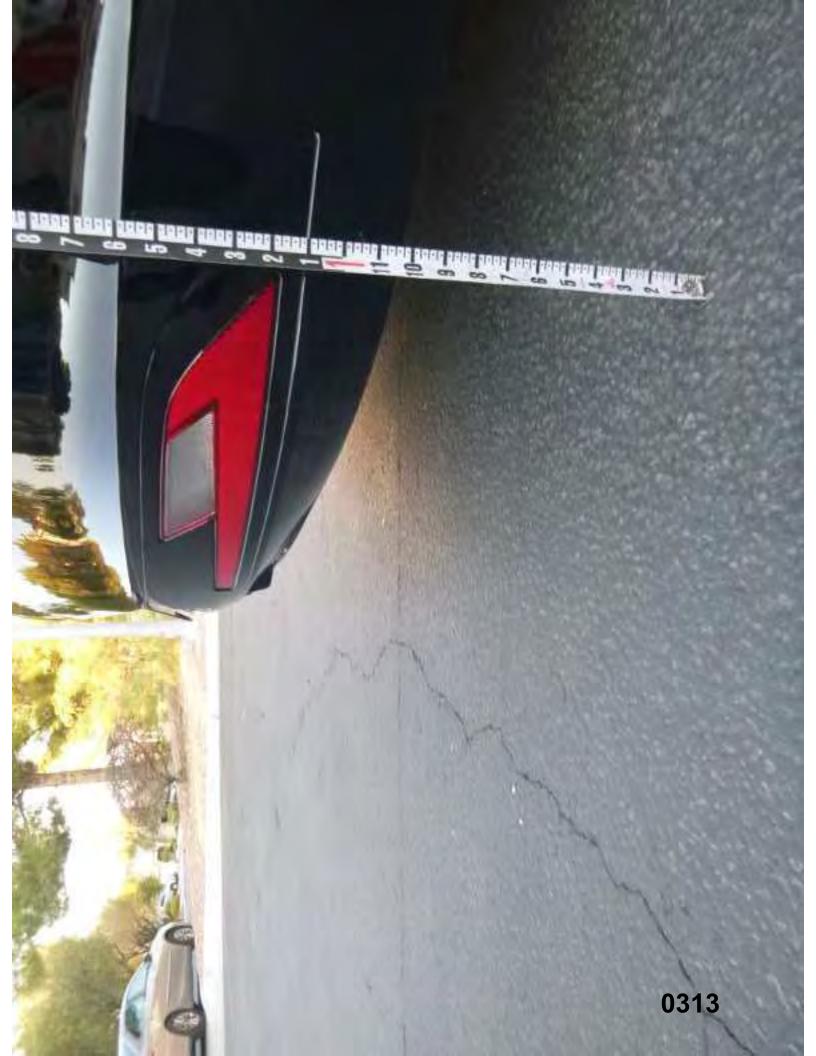






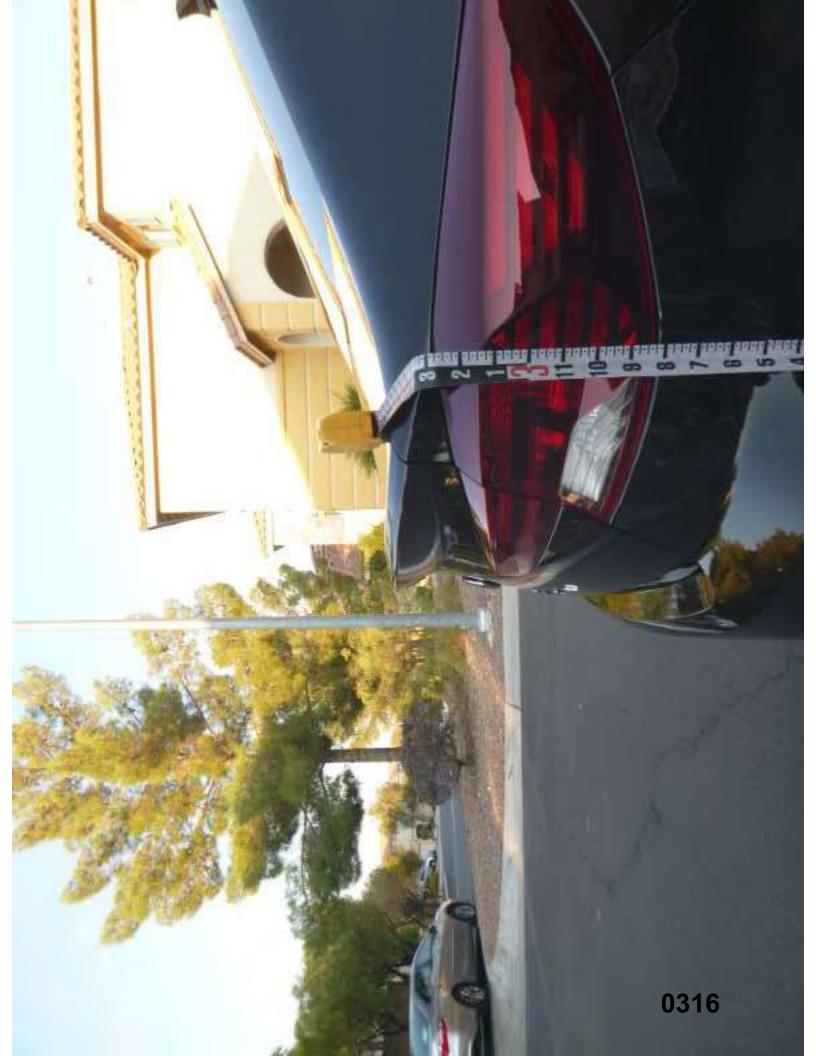






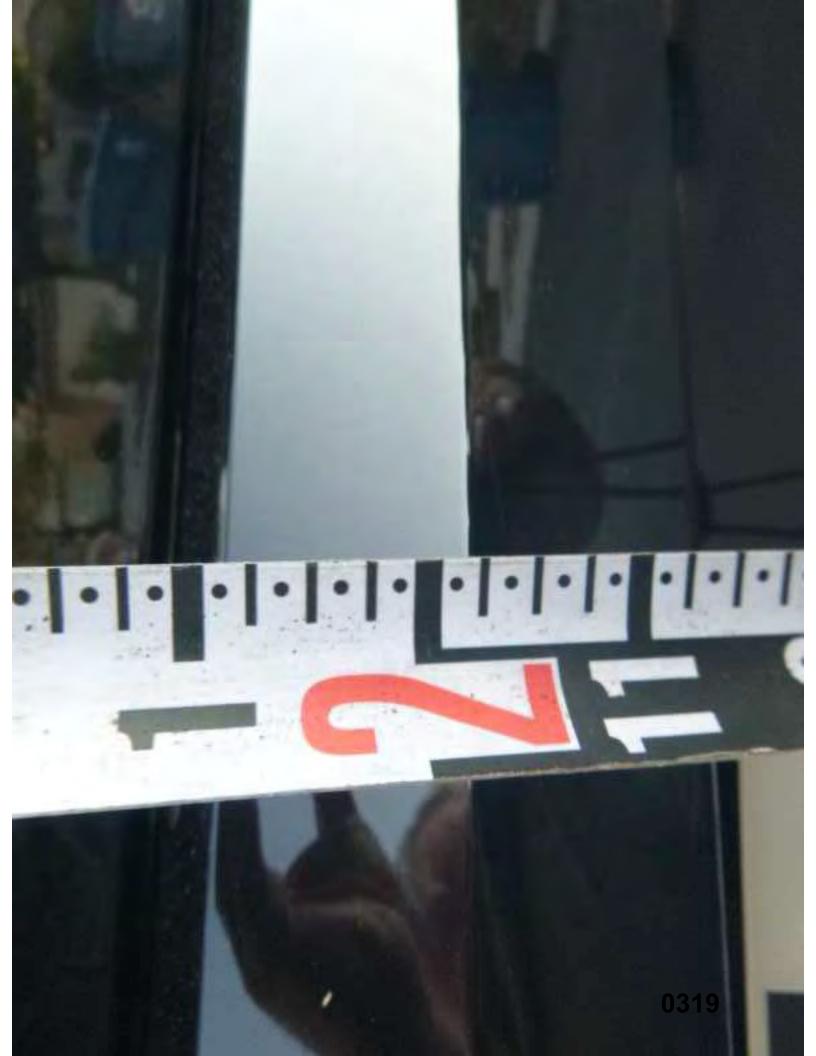


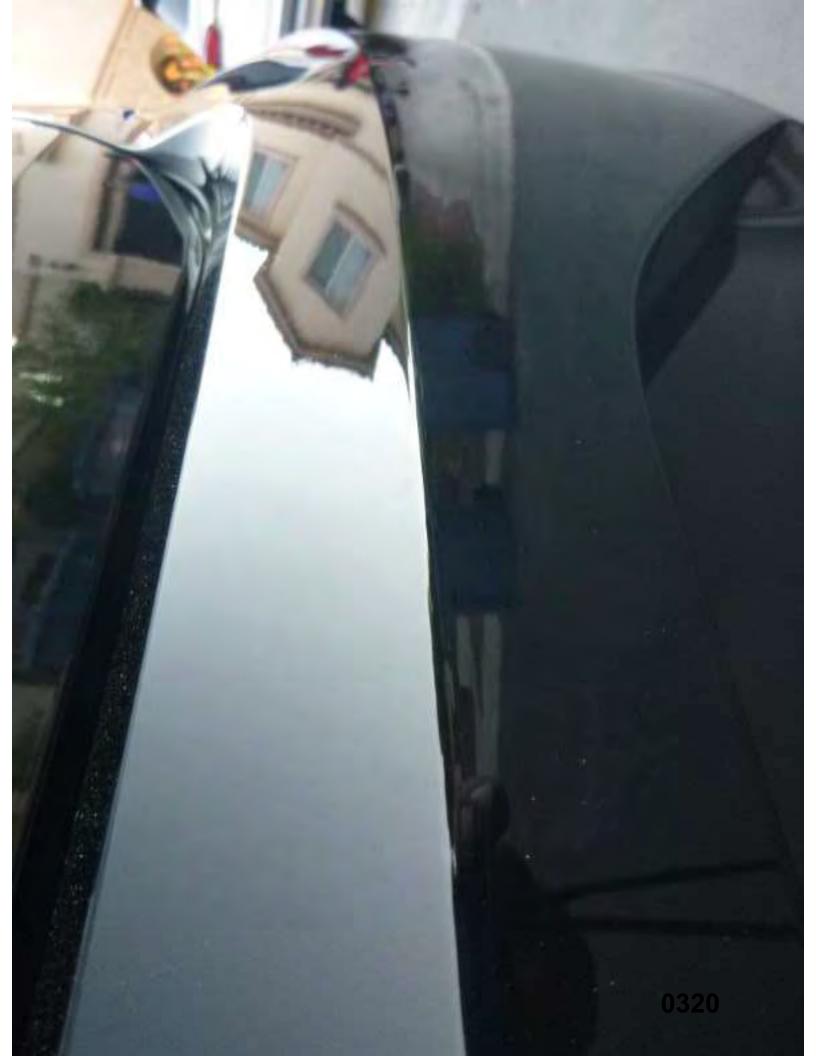








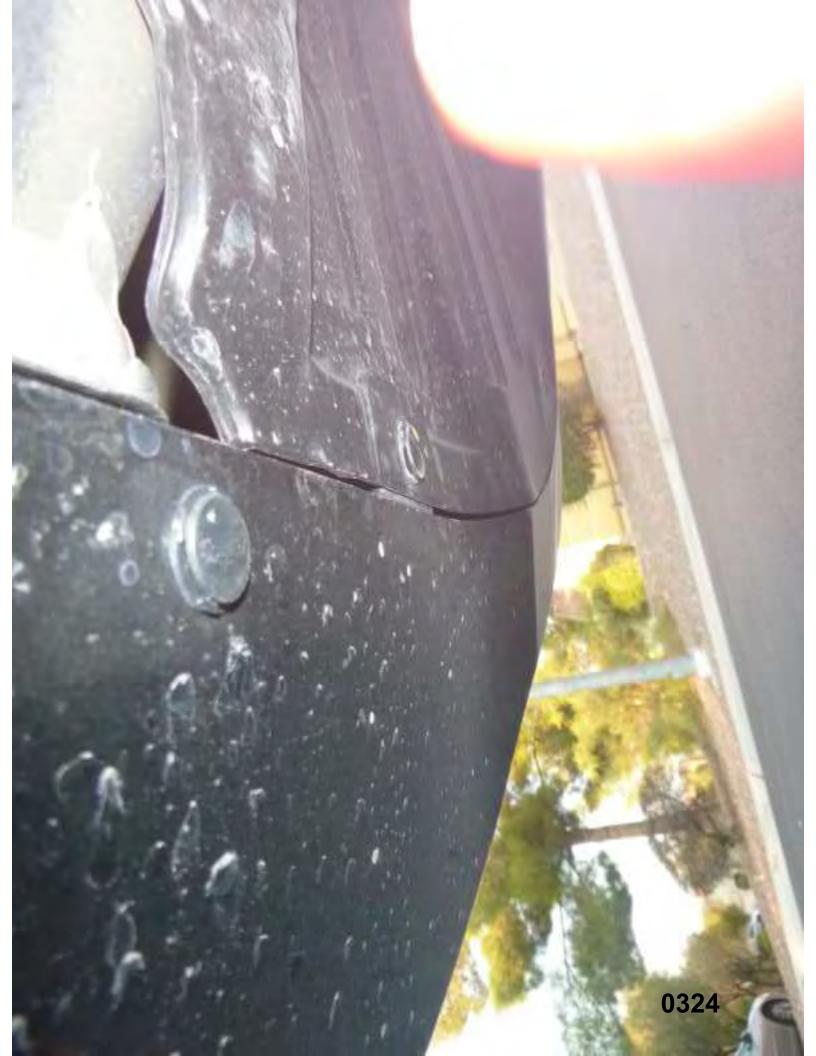


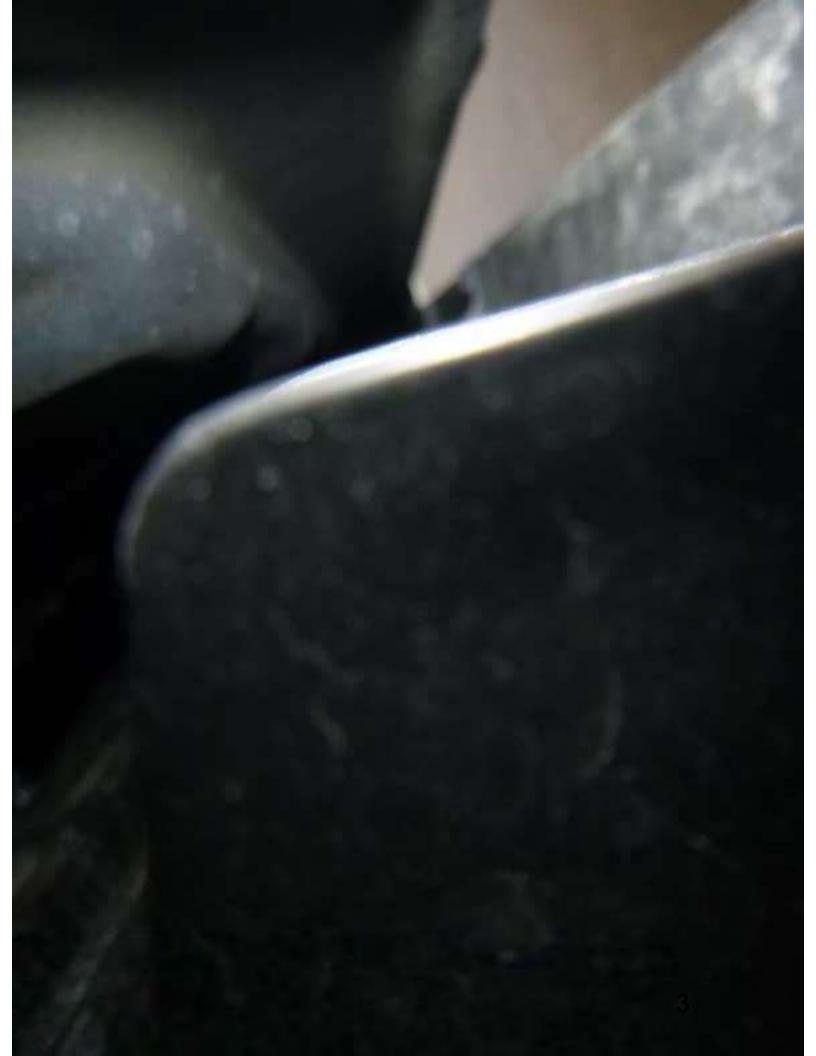




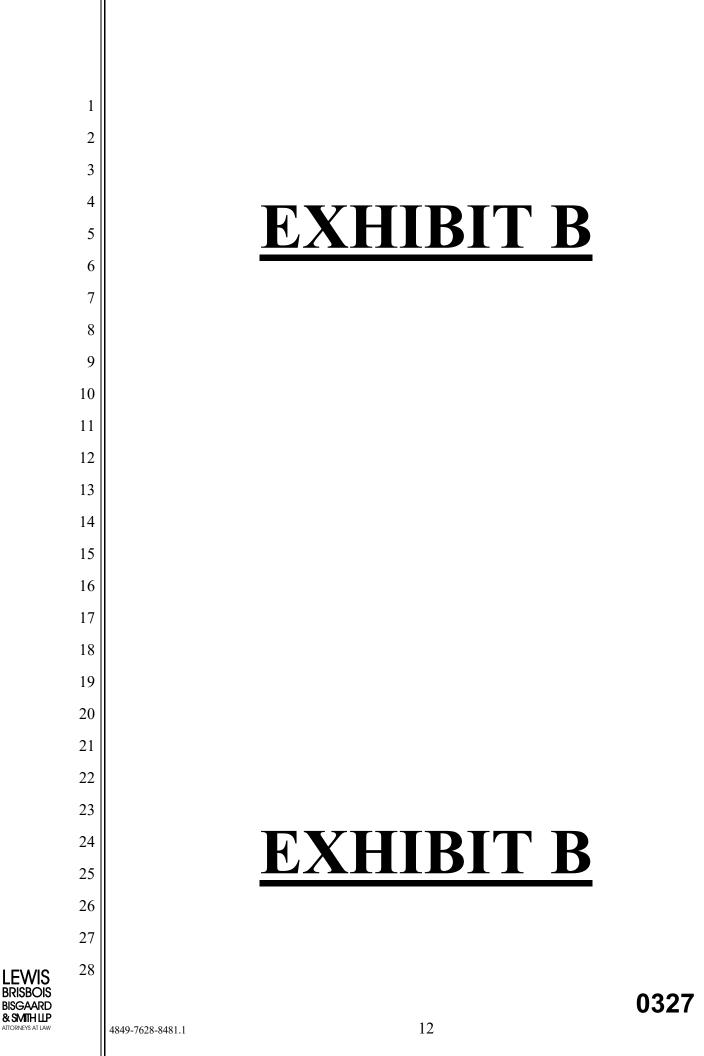




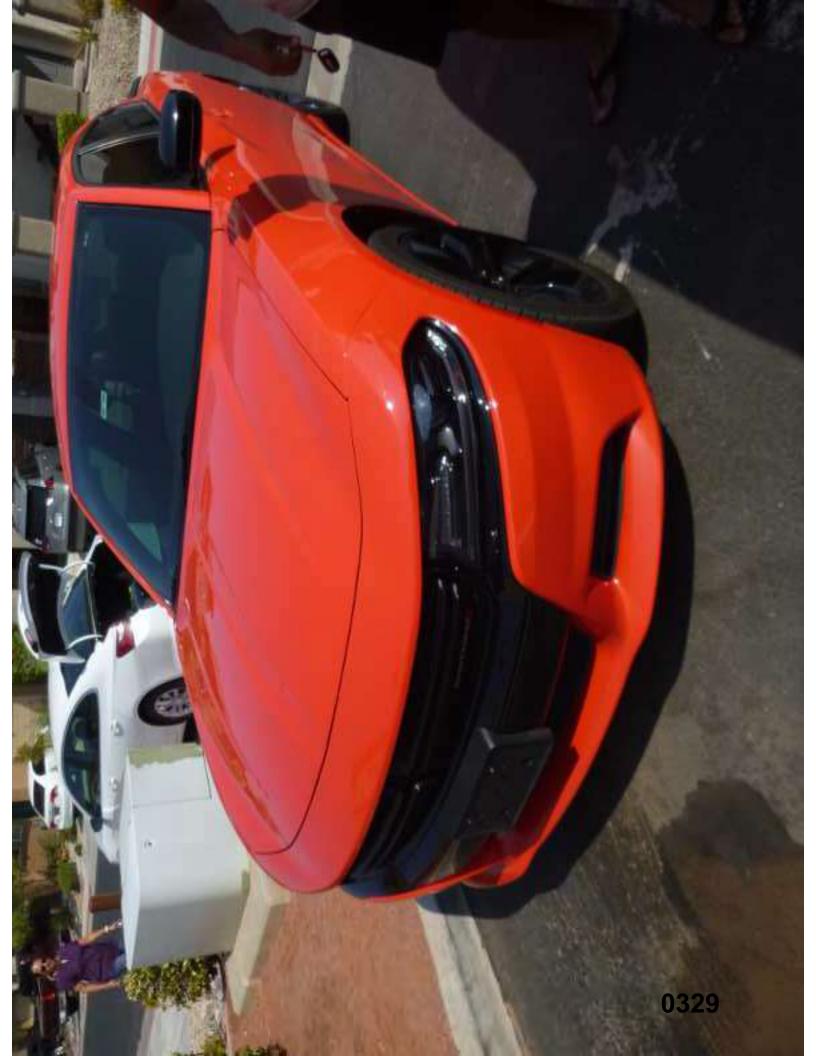


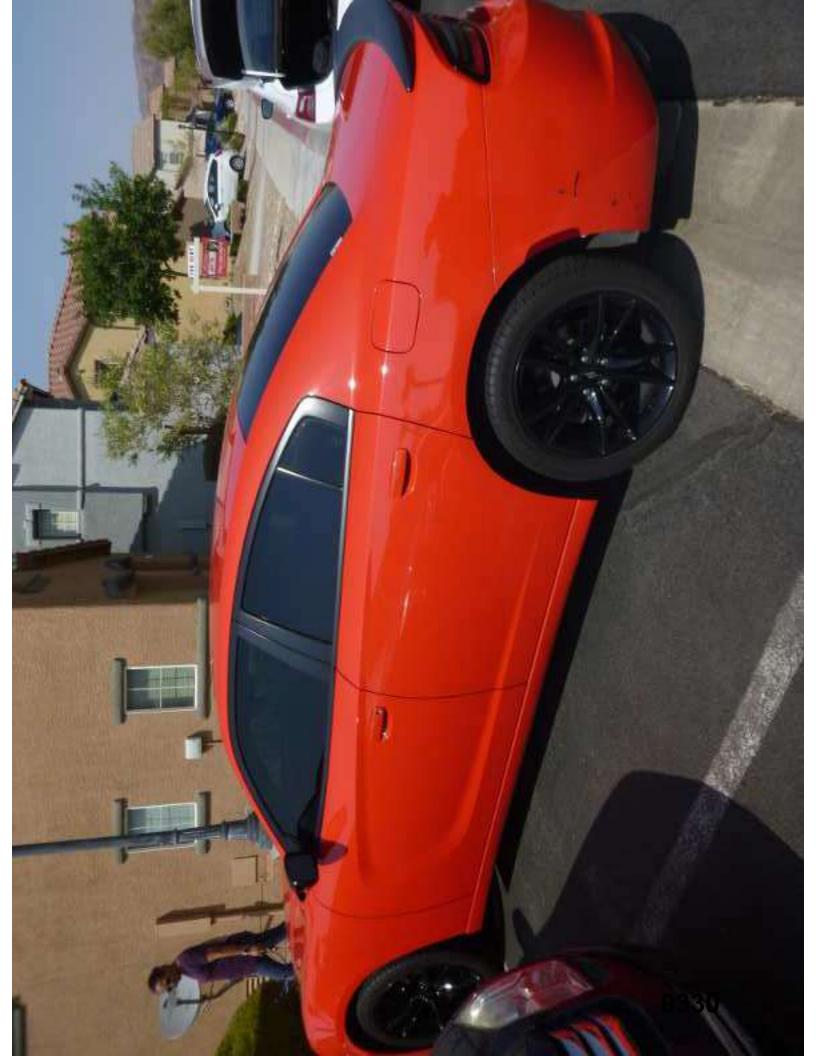


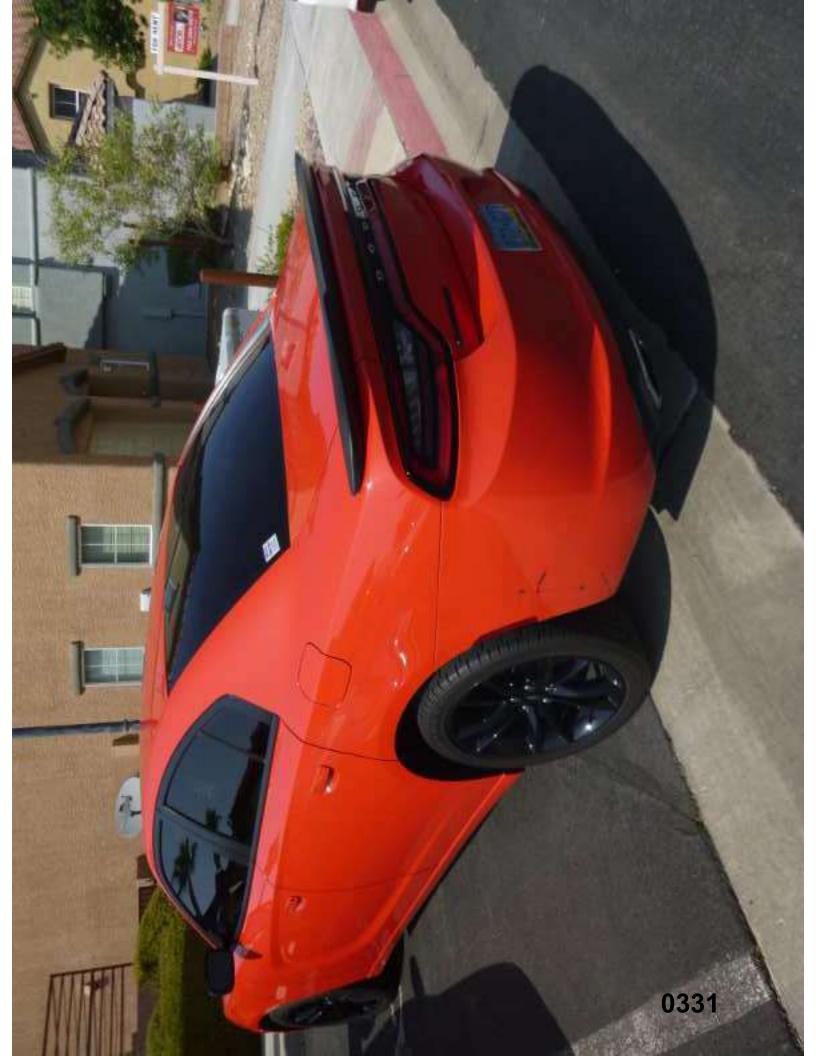


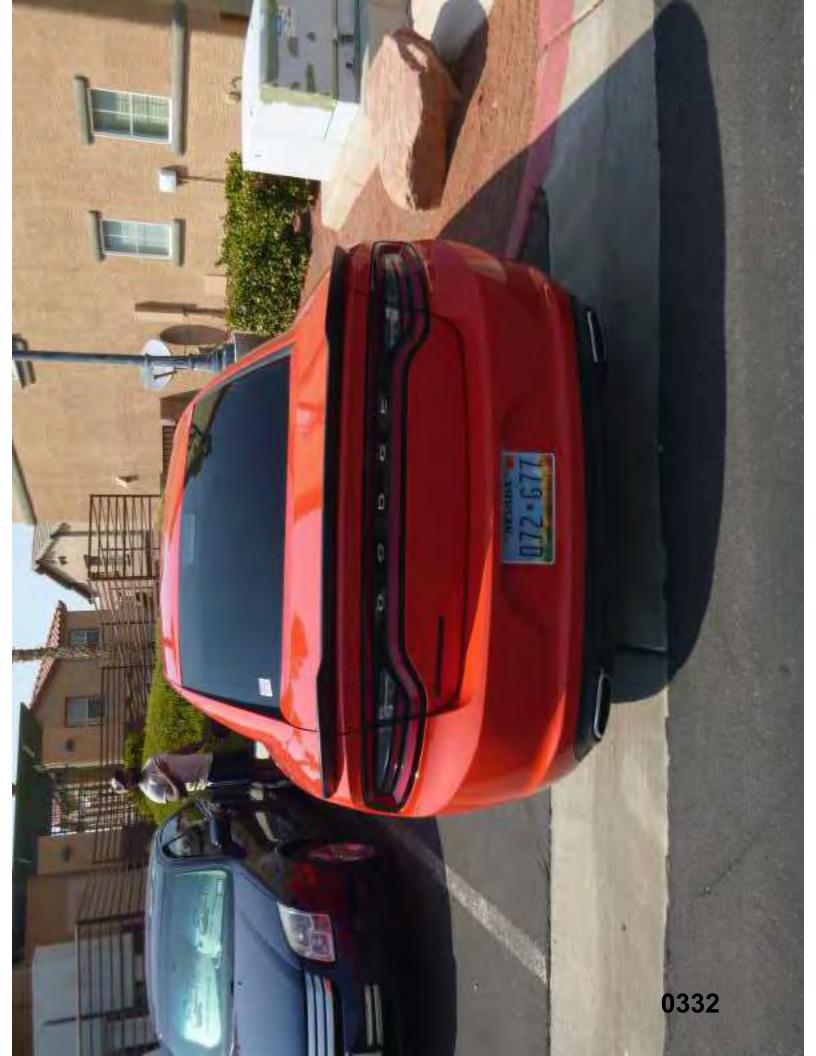


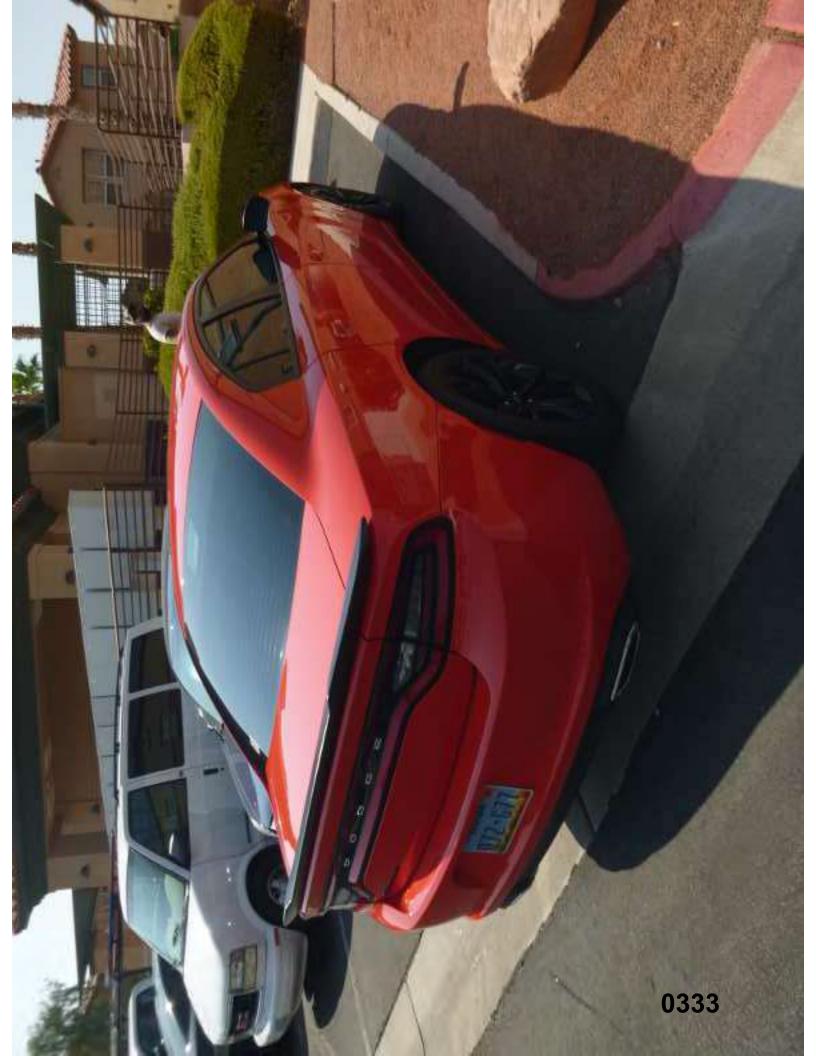




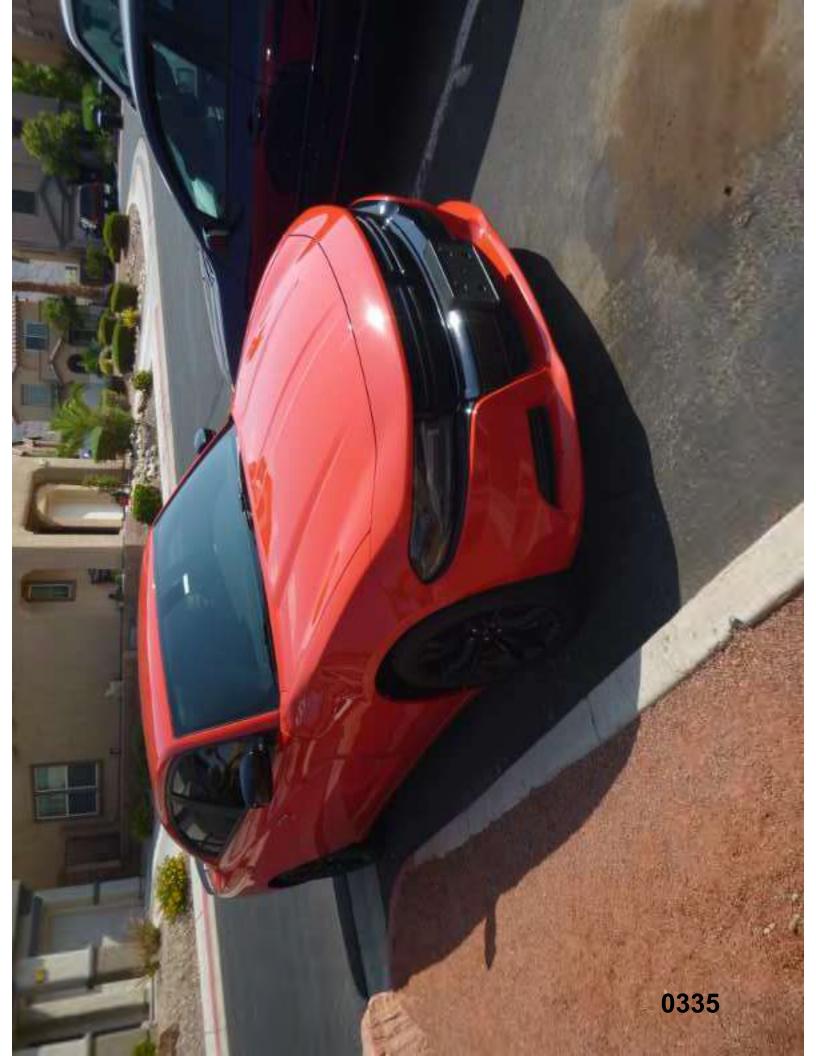




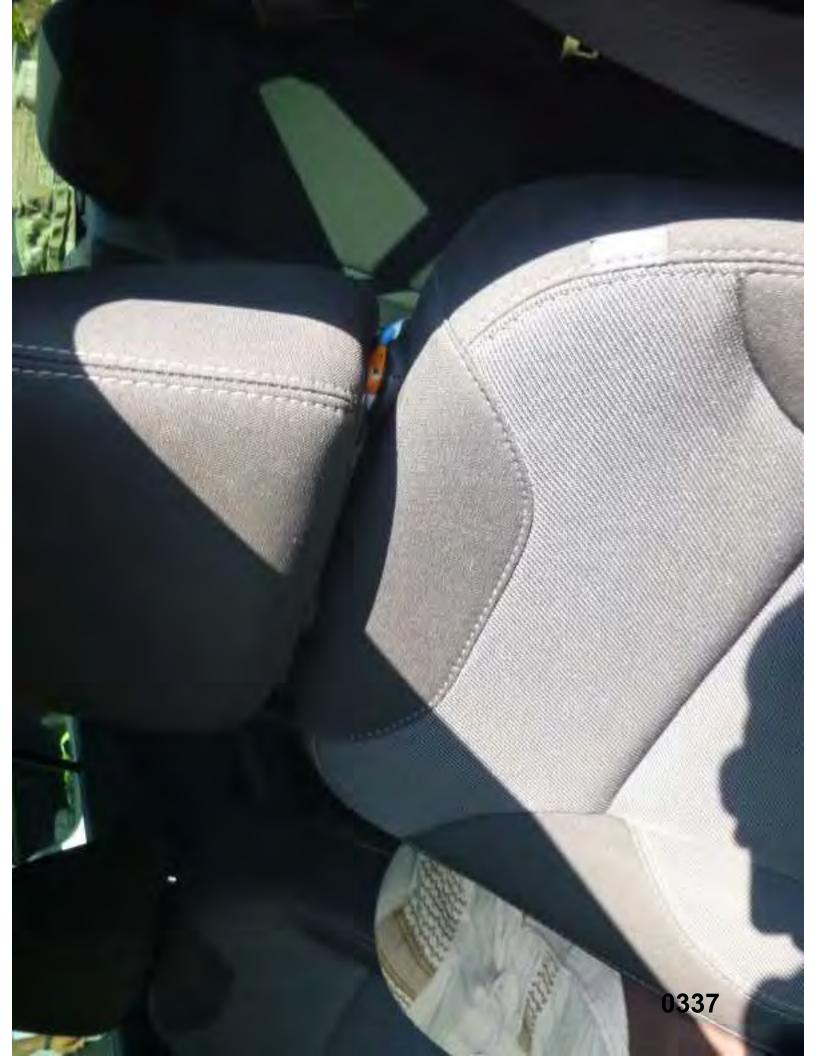




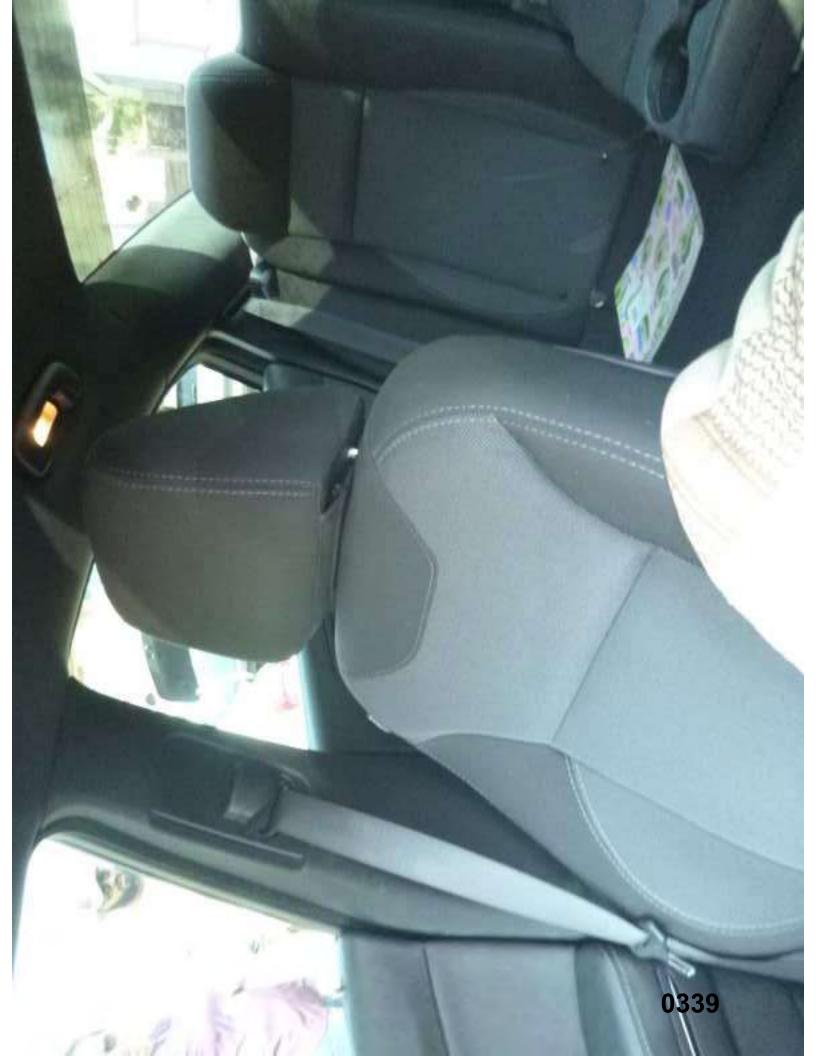


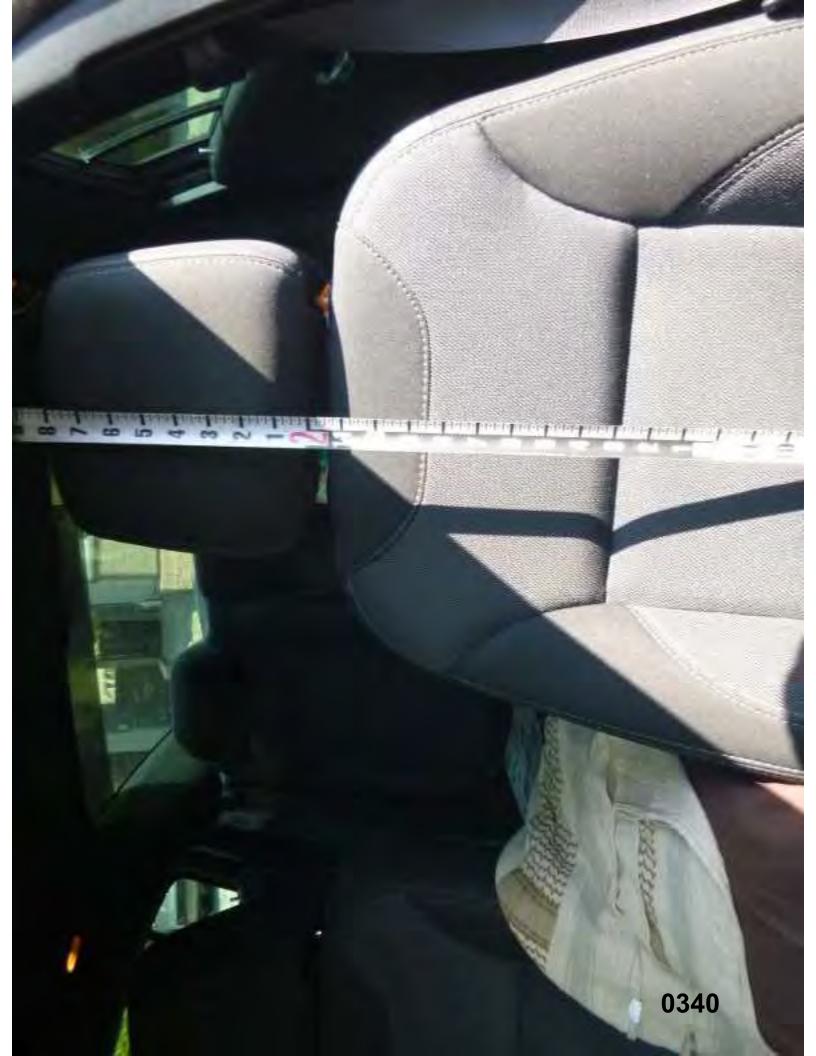


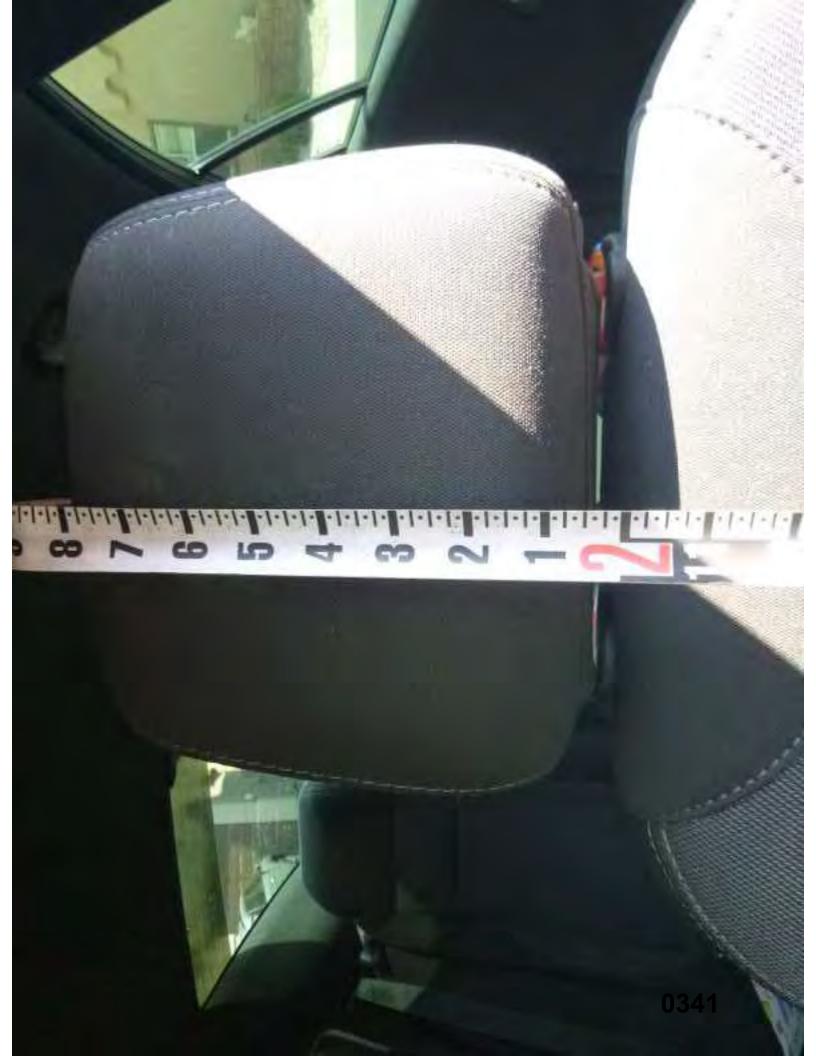












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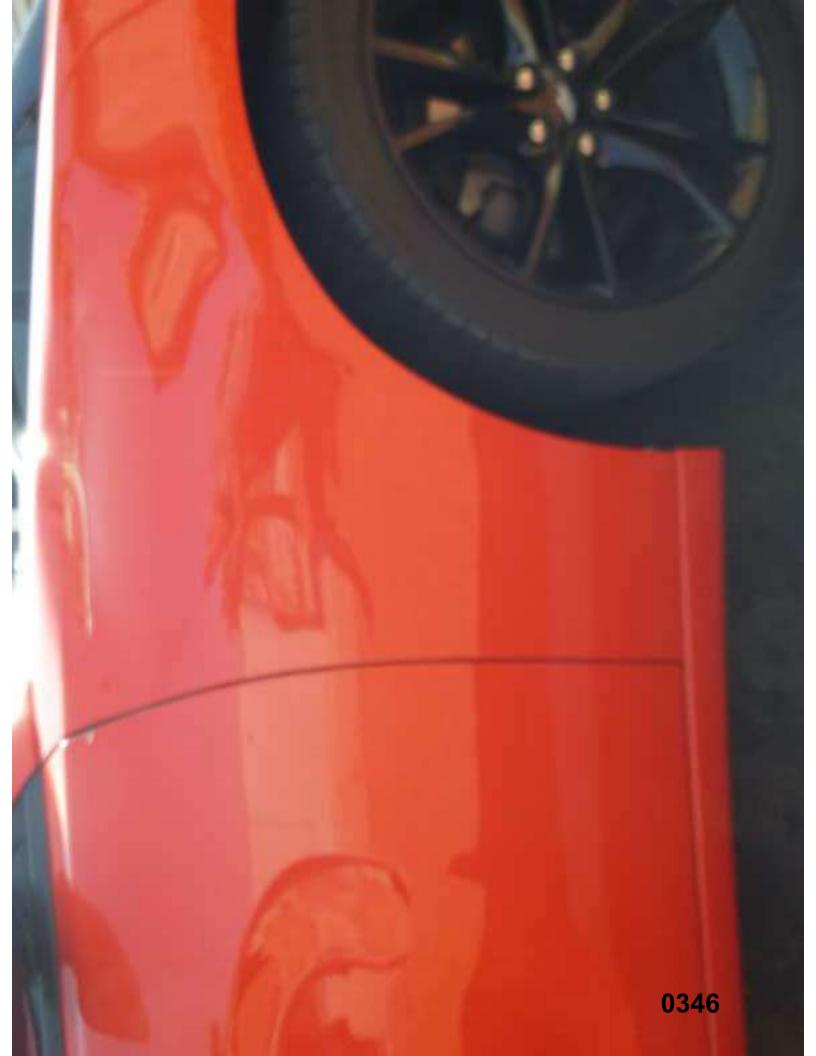
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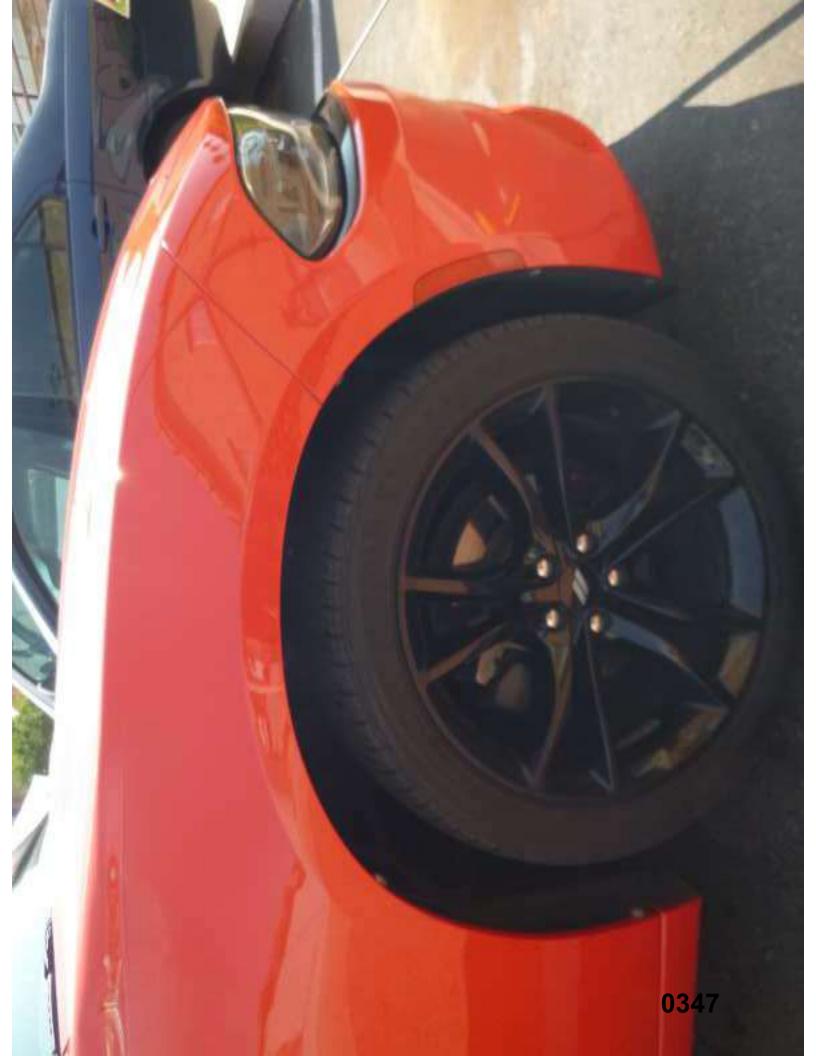
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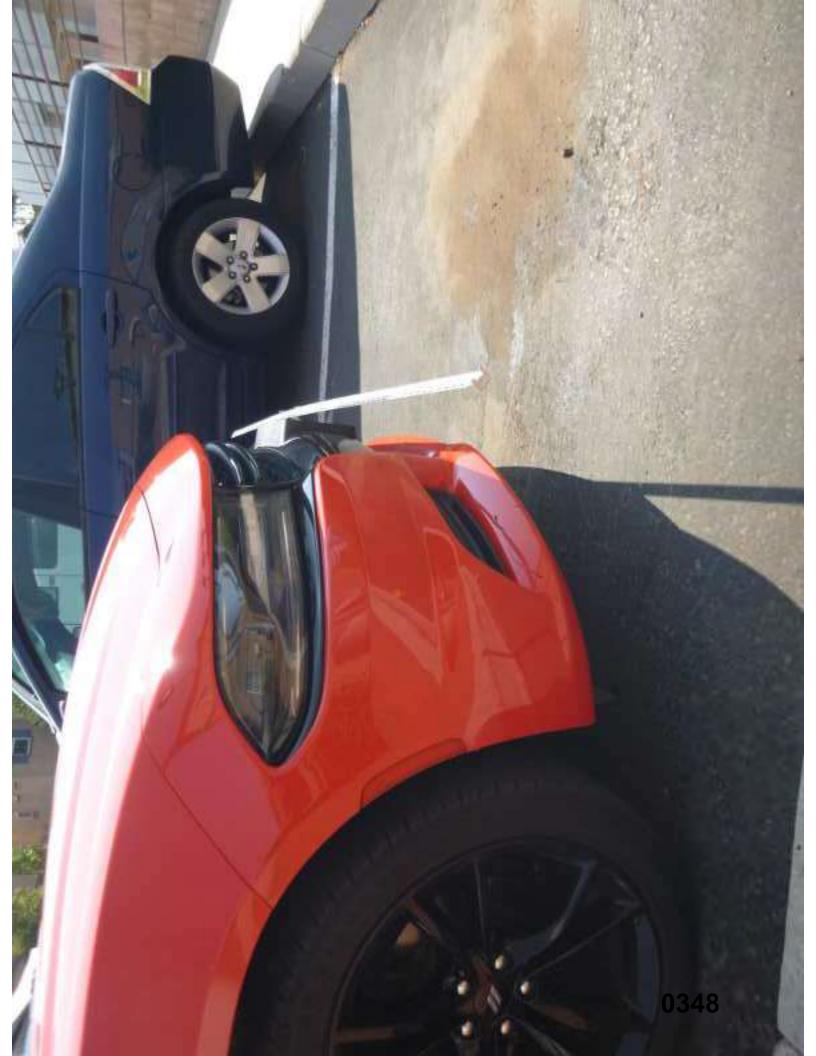
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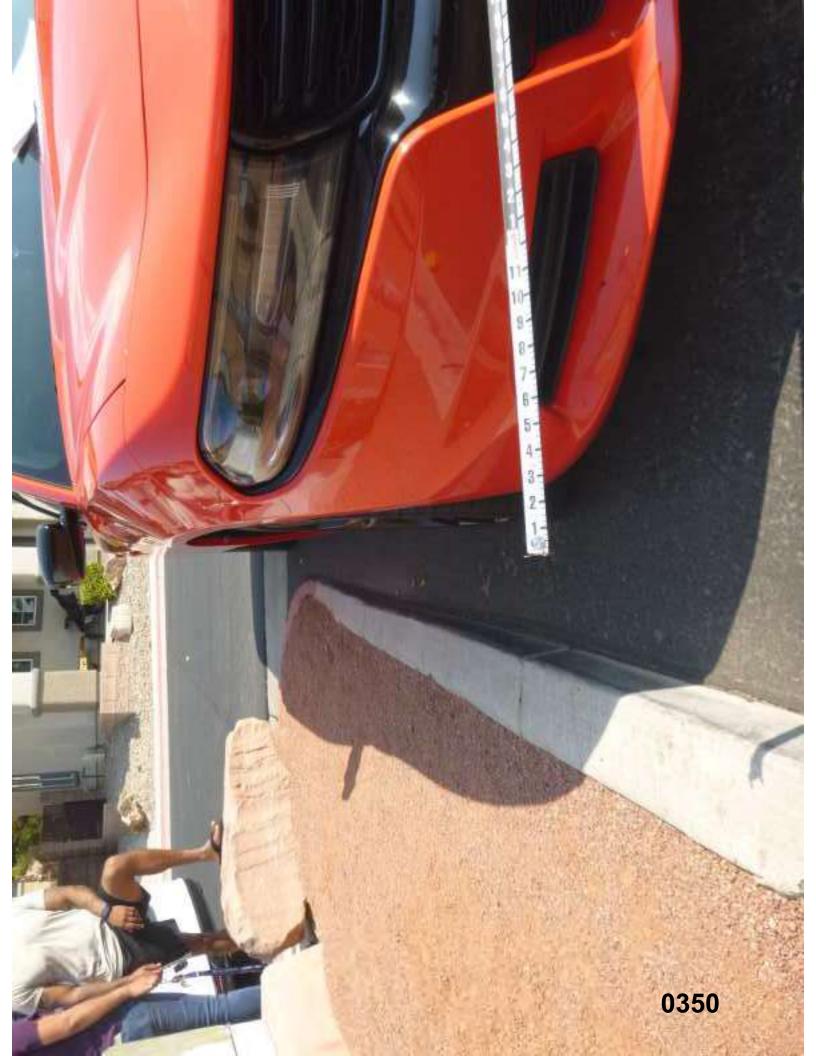


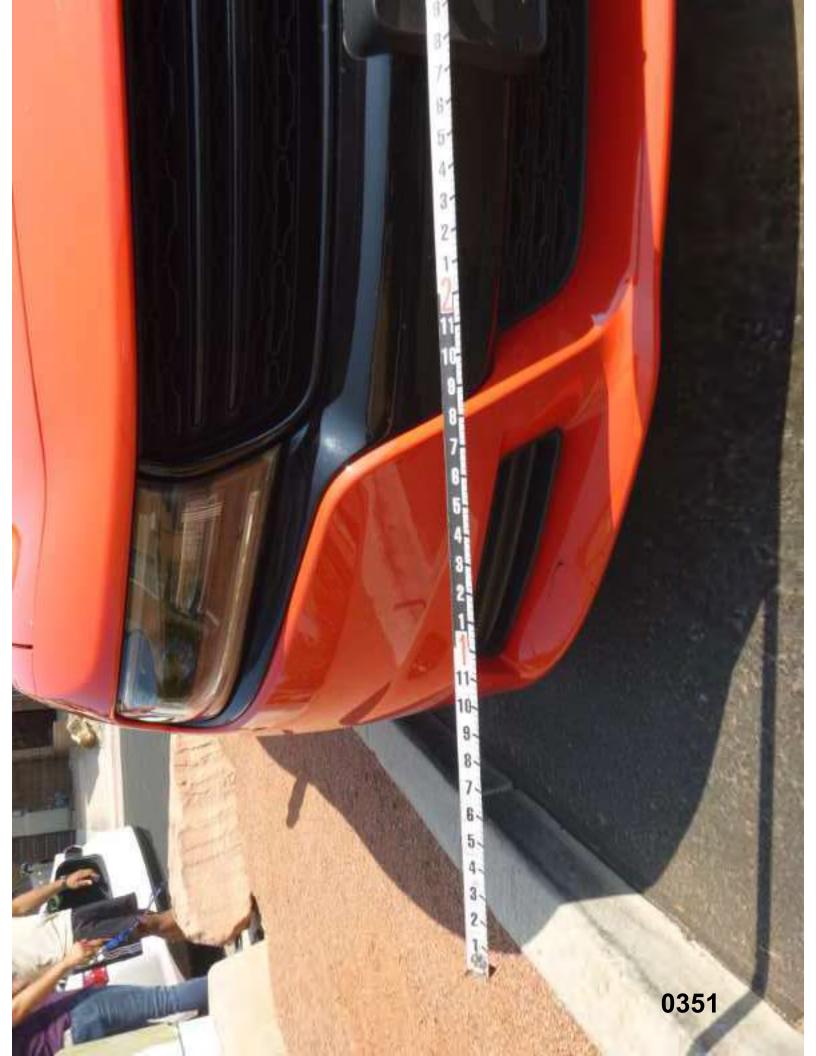




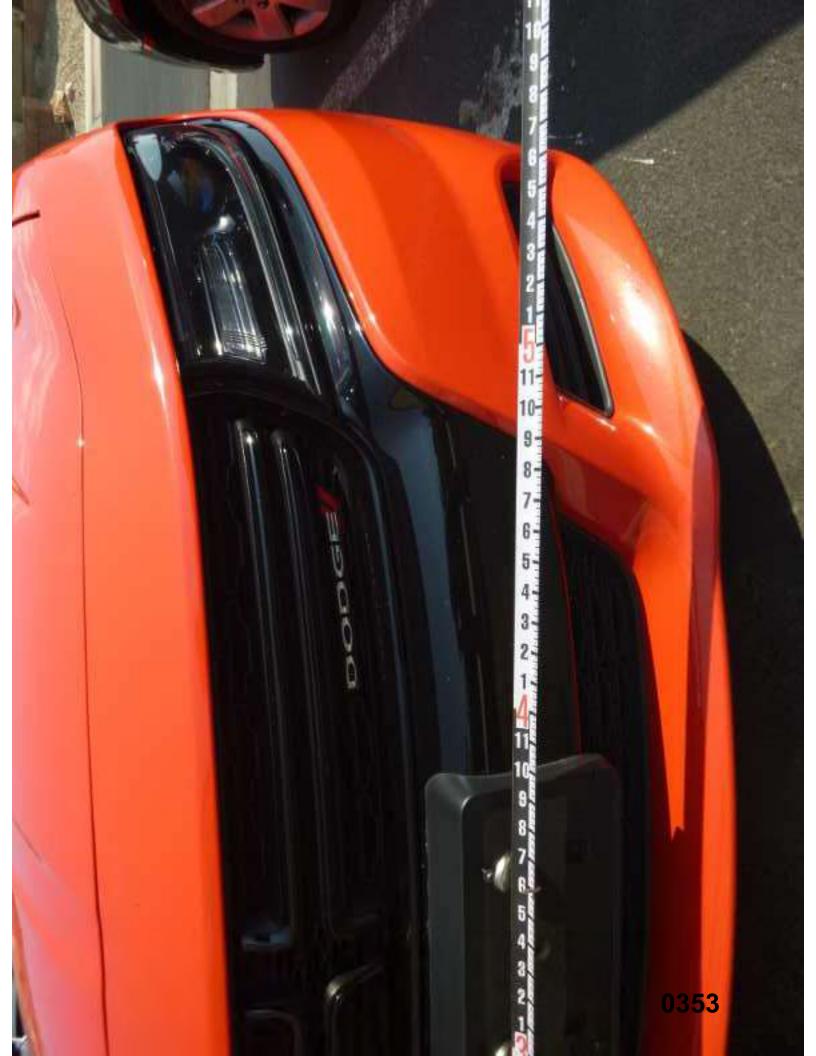


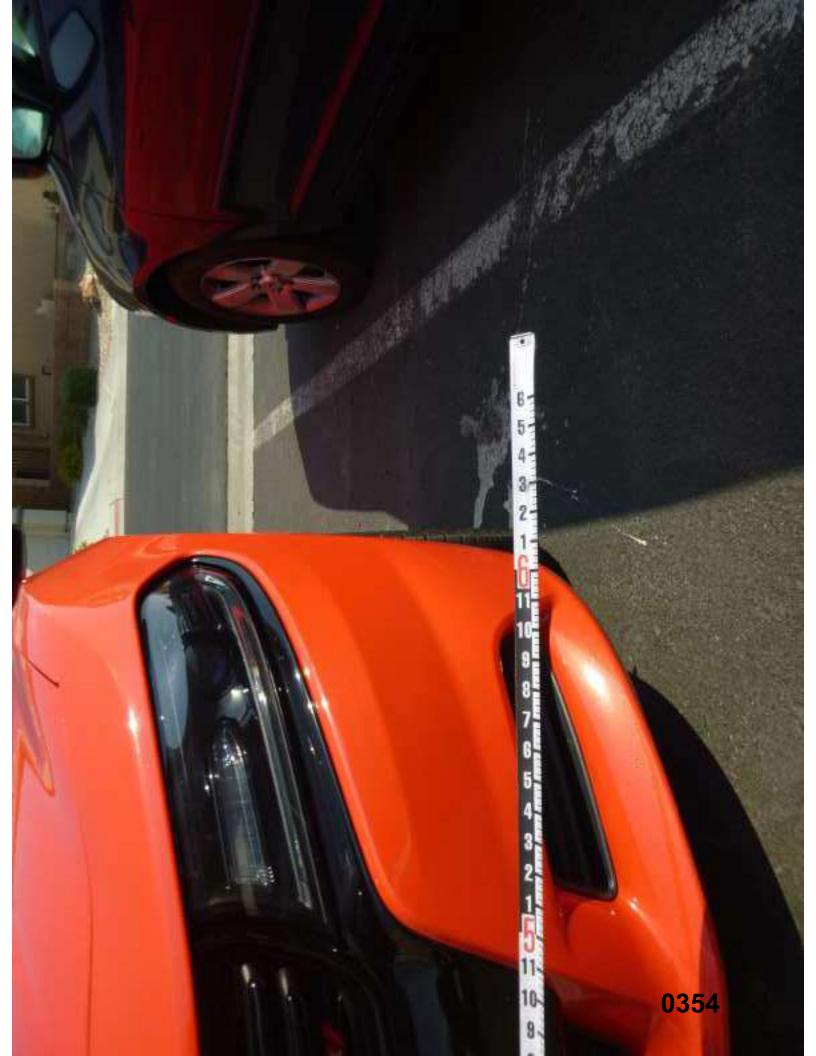


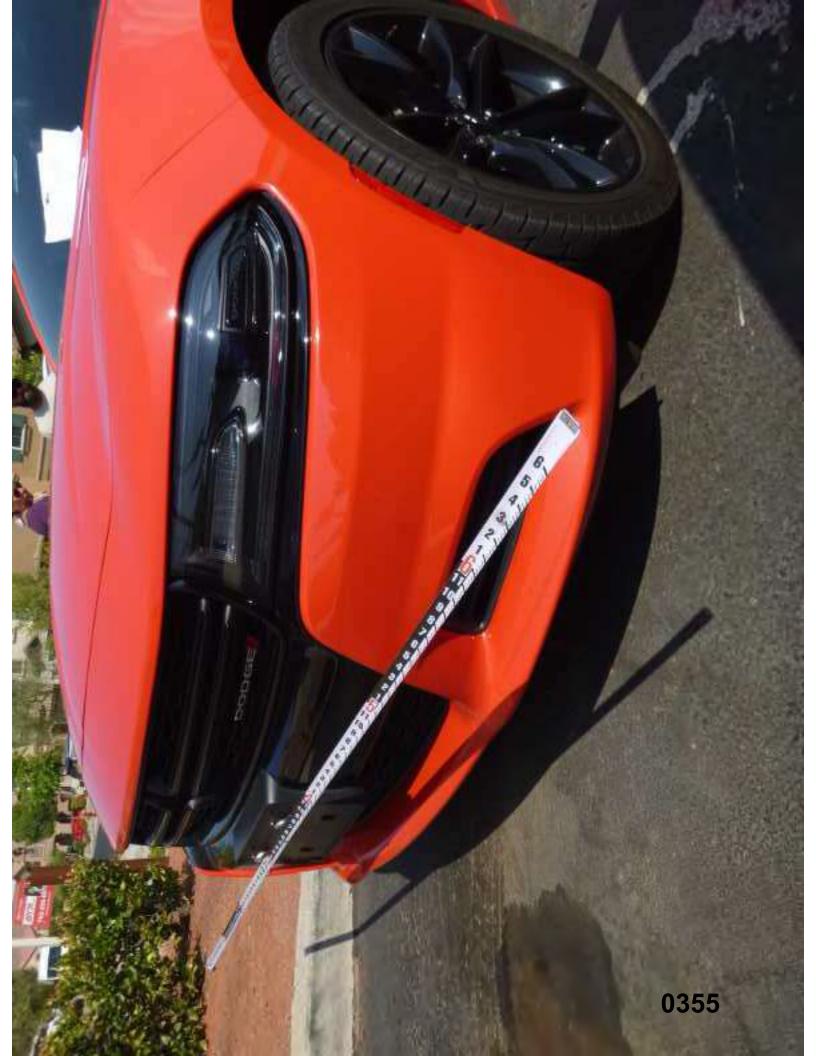


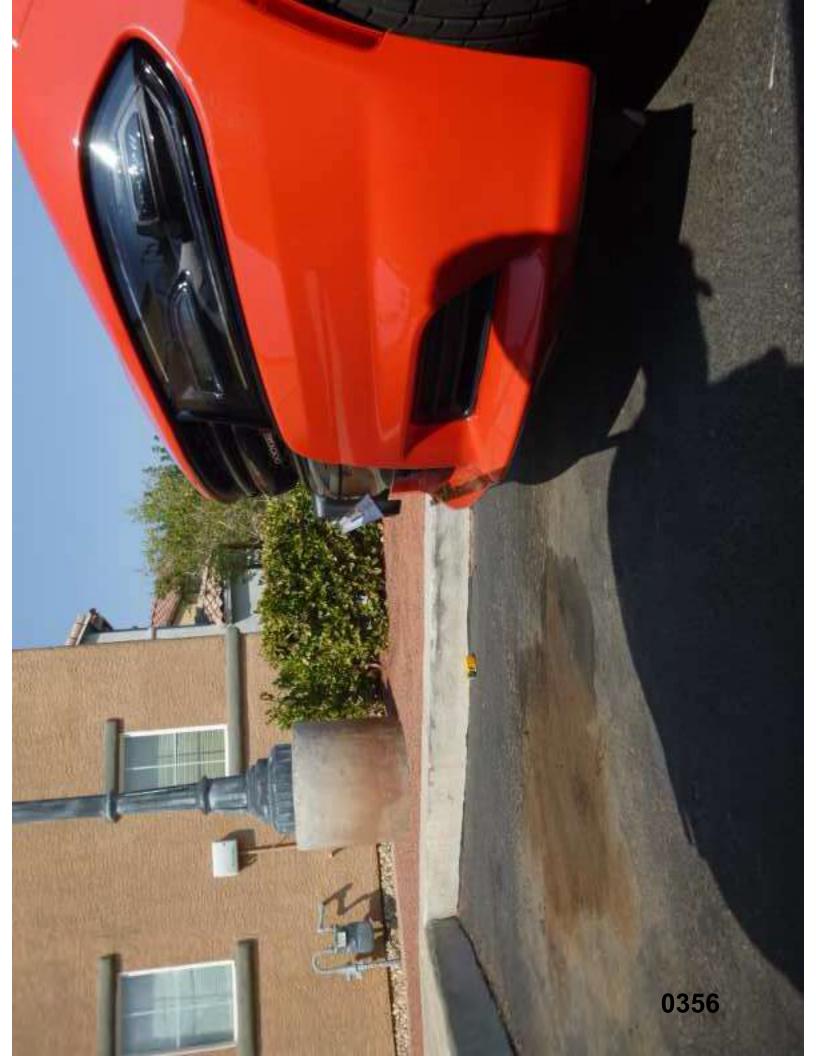


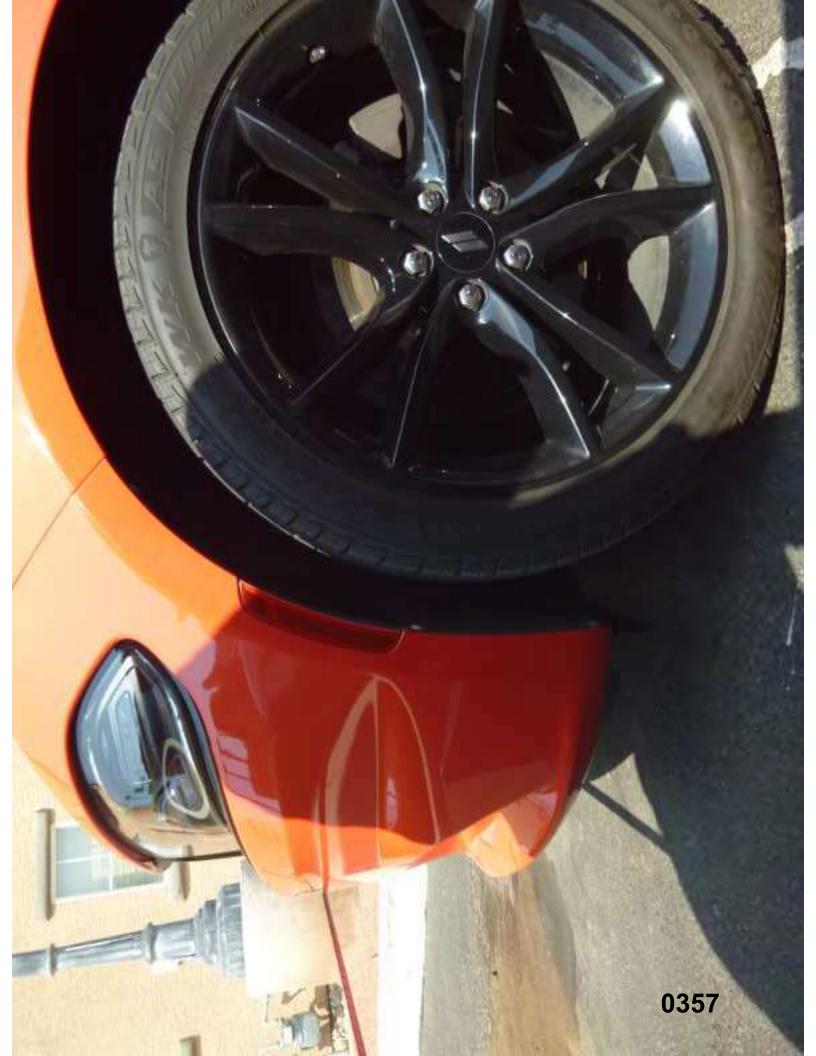


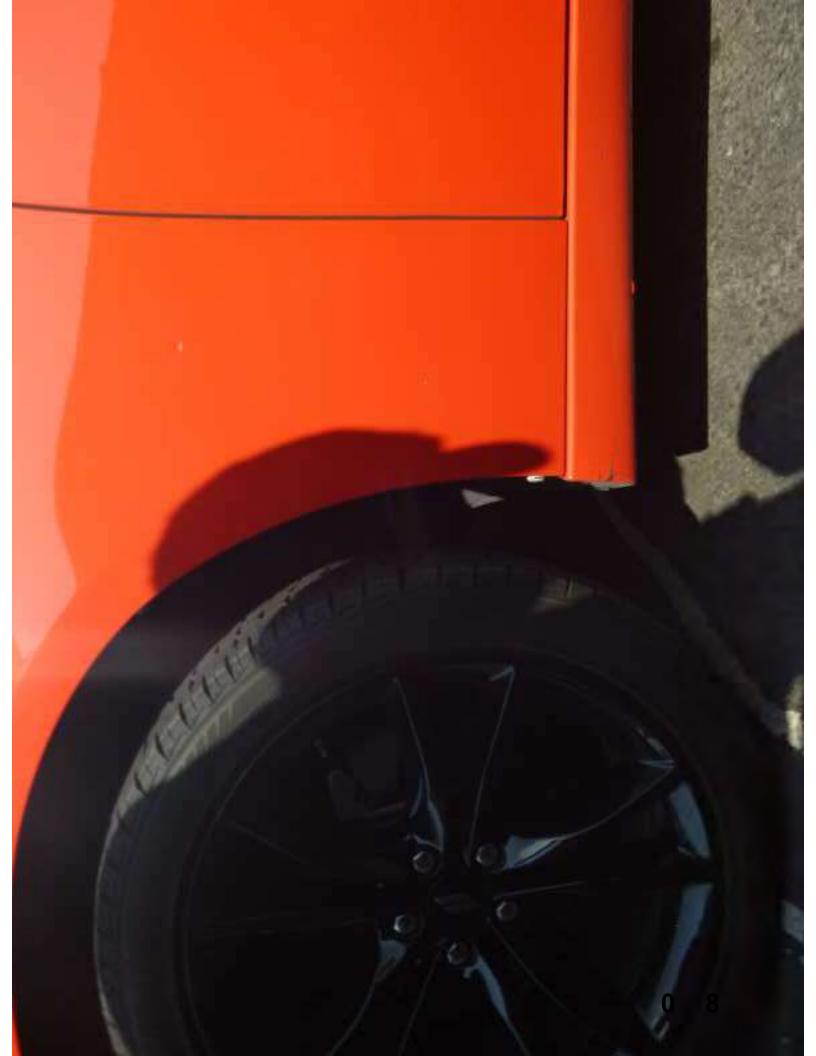


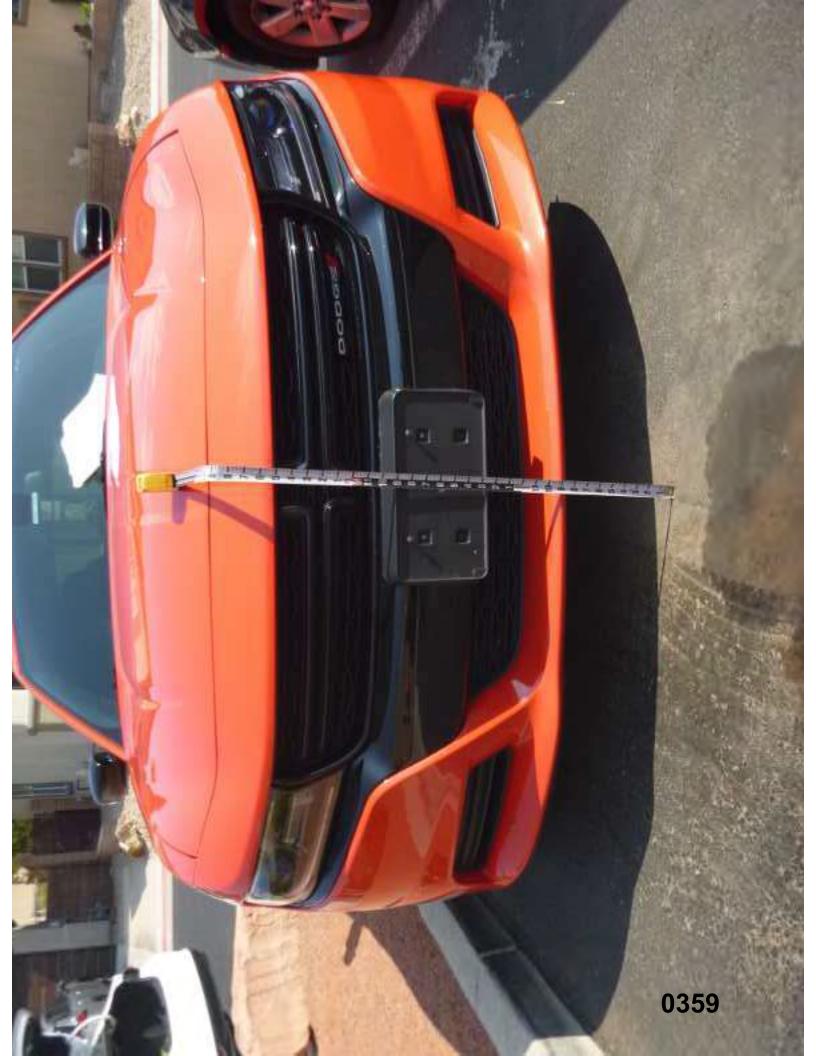


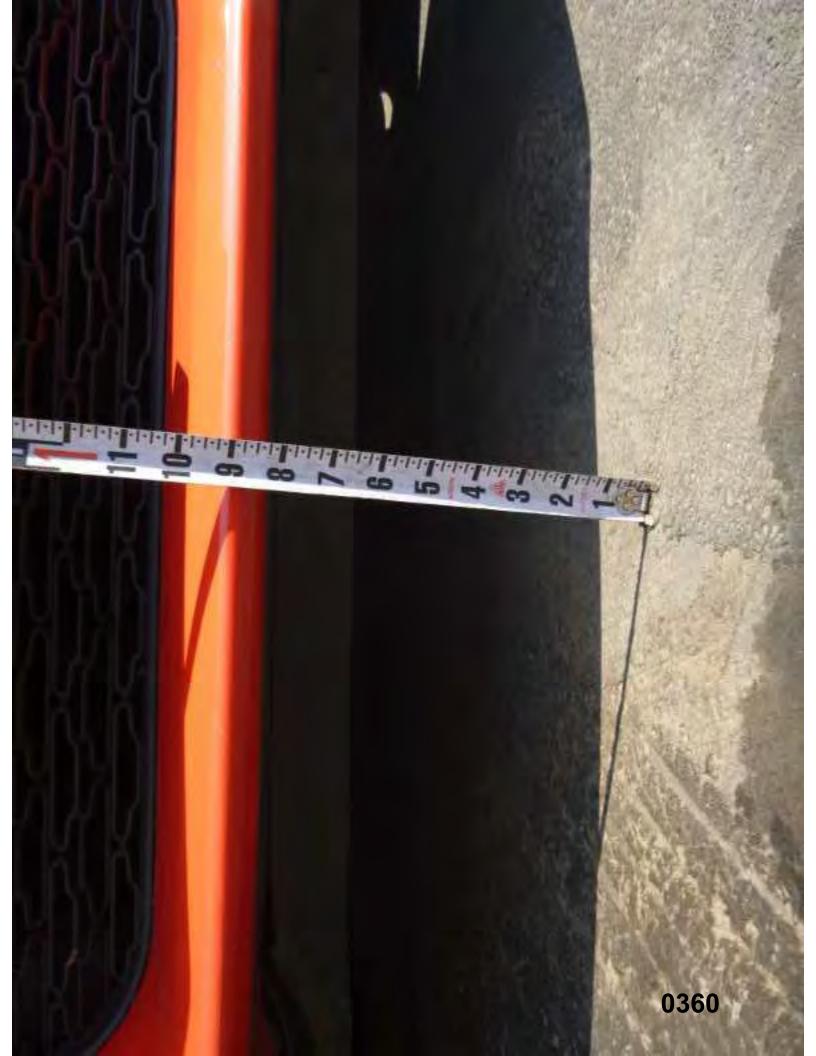






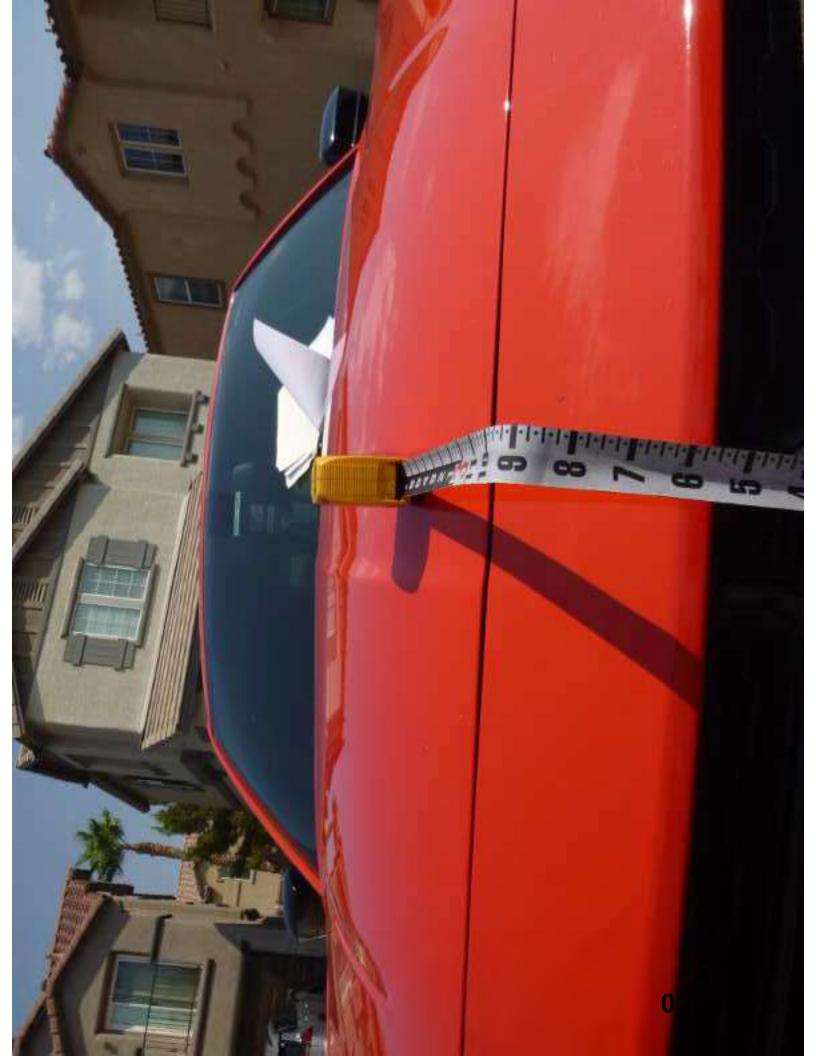


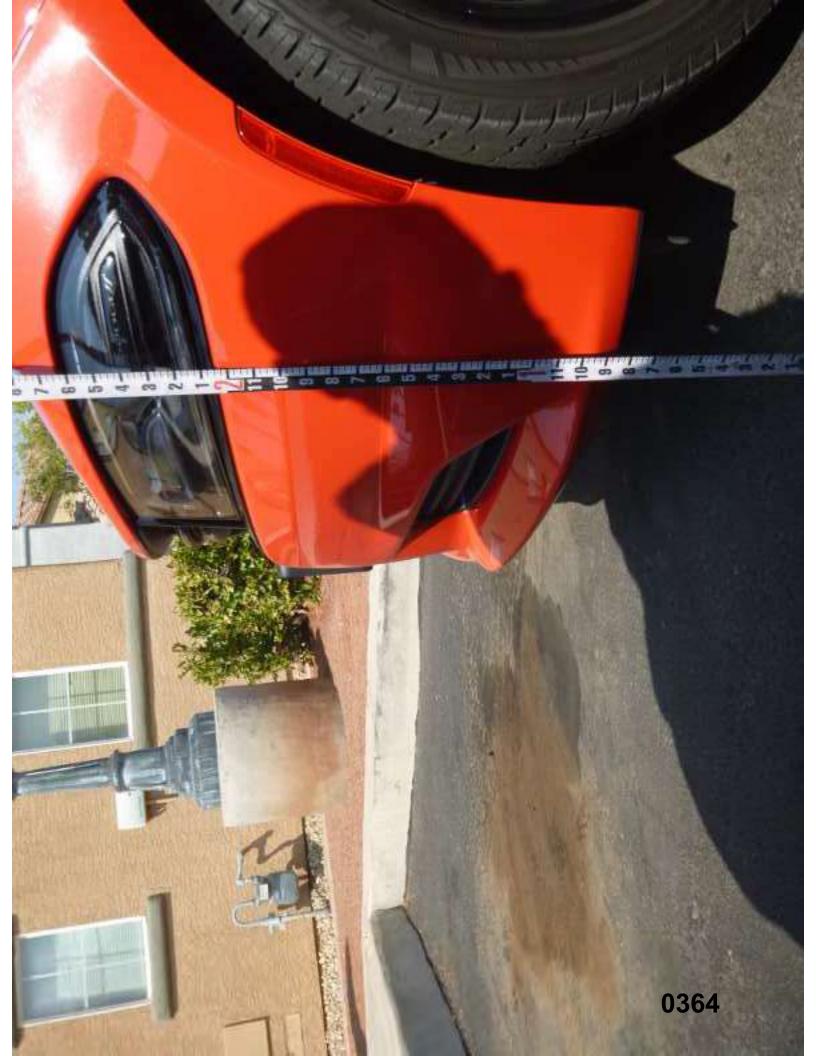


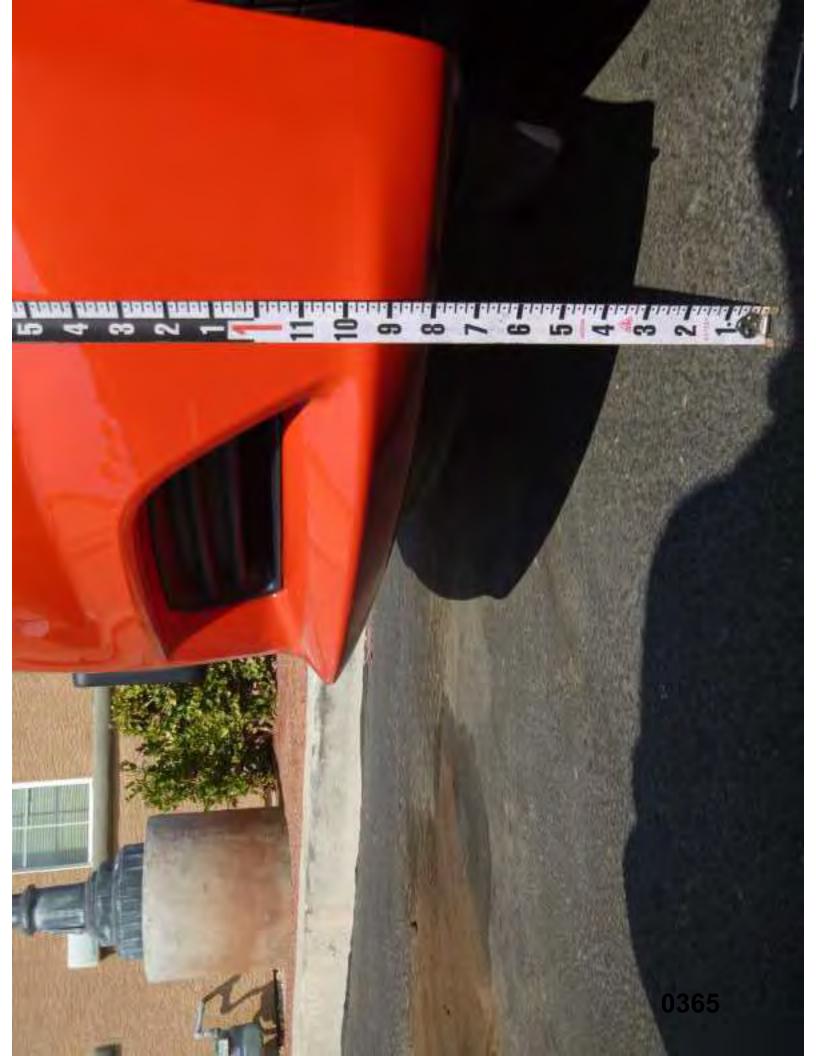


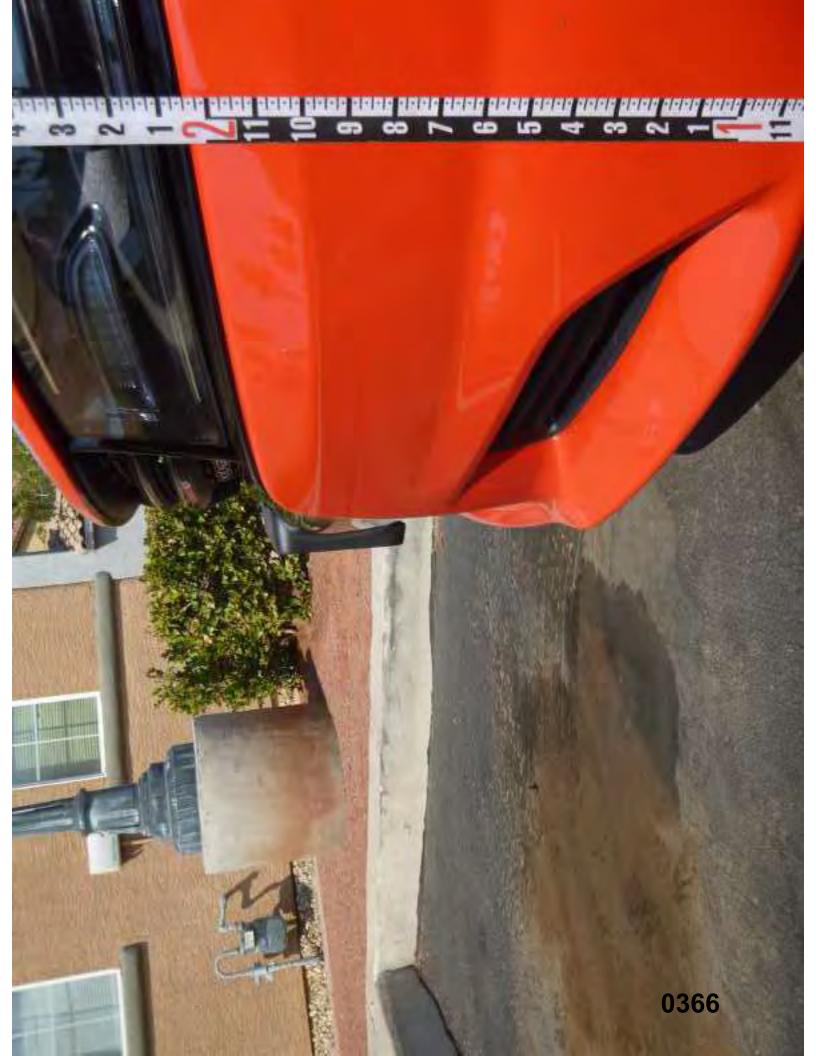


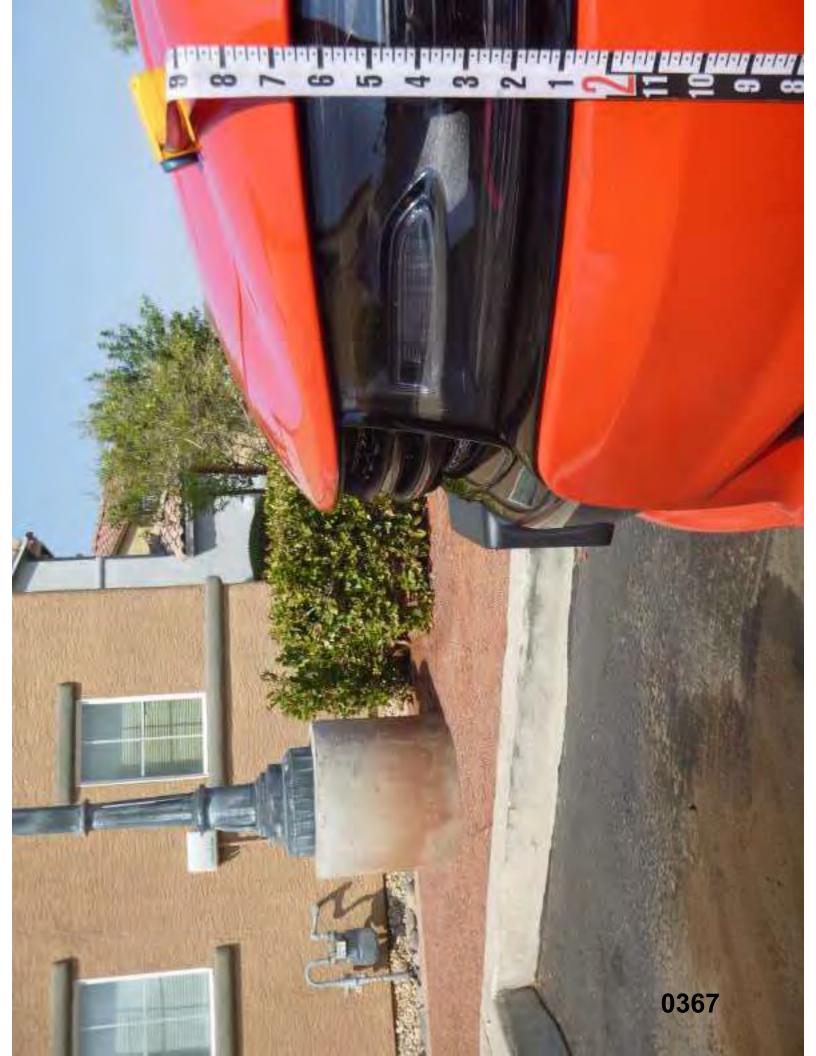








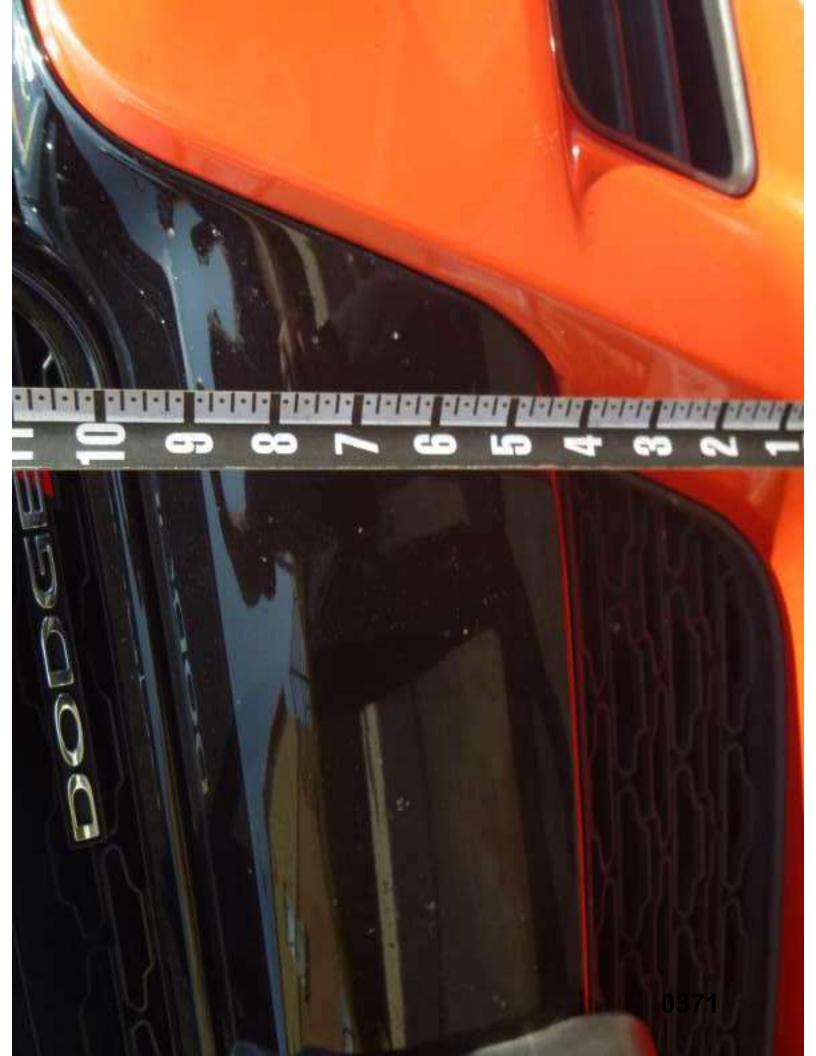


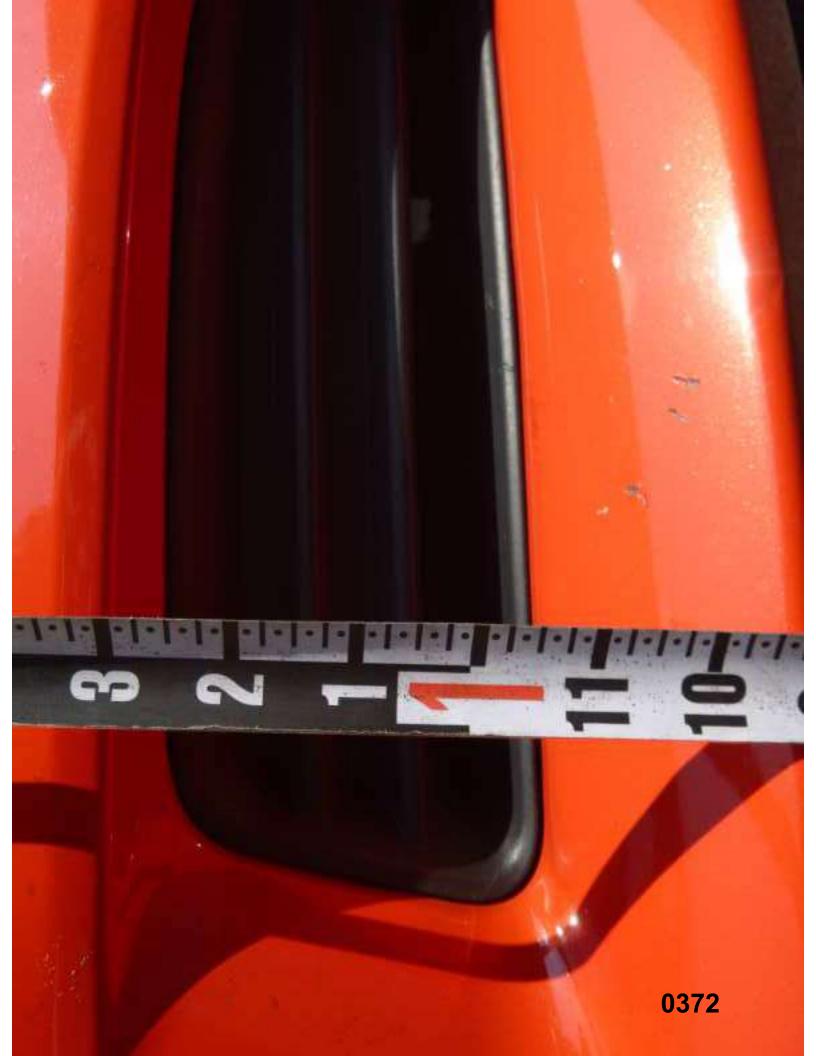








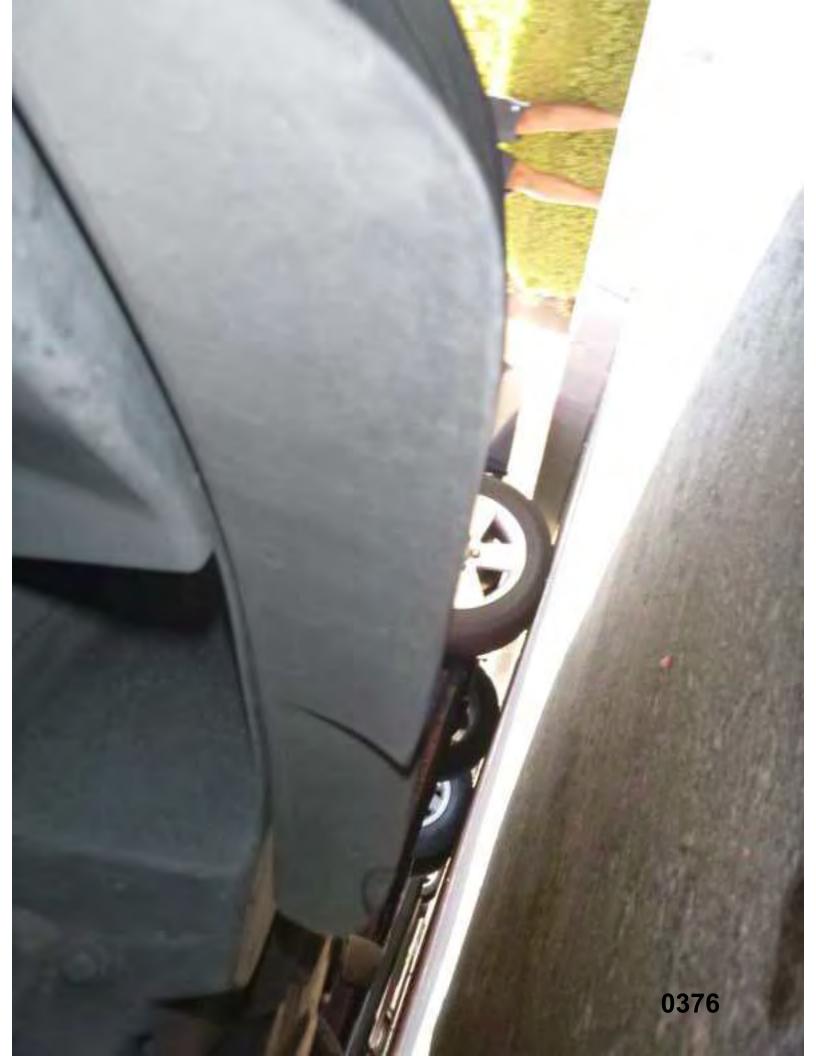


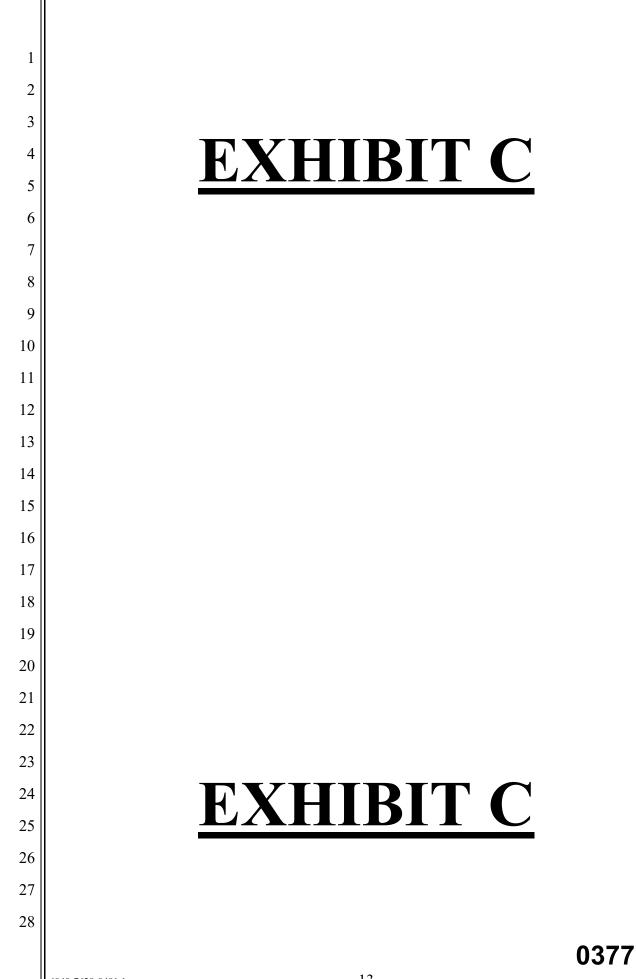












BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH ШР ORNEYS AT LAW

EWIS



July 28, 2020

Geico Fax: 866-568-2132

Re:

Your insured : Date of Loss : Claim Number: My Client(s) : Berenice Domenzain-Rodriguez & Edward J Rodriguez Moya 7/25/2020 0279986740101014 Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner & Sydney Kaner

Dear claims handler:

This is to advise you that my firm represents the above-named client(s) in a claim for personal injuries against your insured as a result of an incident on 7/25/2020.

Please provide me with a <u>certified copy of all insurance policies</u>, including any umbrella policy(ies), of your insured and retain this letter as an indication of my representation. Kindly forward copies of any recorded oral and or written statements taken from our client with regards to the facts of this loss. Please also preserve any and all information related to this claim.

Please confirm in writing your address and other information to correspond with the adjuster. Should you need further information or assistance with this claim, please feel free to contact me.

Finally, please instruct your insured to preserve all evidence in your insured's possession, custody, or control related to this incident. This includes any photographs, and/or video/audio of the incident, parties, and/or the involved vehicles, statements of the parties, etc. Failure to preserve that evidence may result in sanctions against your insured. *See*, *Stubli v. Big D International Trucks, Inc.*, 810 P.2d 785, 107 Nev. 309 (1991).

Sincerely,

Daniel Price

Daniel R. Price PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC

> Office: 702-941-0503 Fax: 702-507-2335 Email: info@pricebeckstromlaw.com 7312 West Cheyenne Avenue Ste. 5, Las Vegas, Nevada 89129



July 29, 2020

Whitney Atterberry Geico Fax: 866-568-2132

Re:

Your insured :Berenice Domenzain-Rodriguez & Edward J Rodriguez MoyaDate of Loss :7/25/2020Claim Number:0279986740101014My Client(s) :Judith Salte, Joshua Kanerr & Sydney Kaner

Dear Whitney Atterberry:

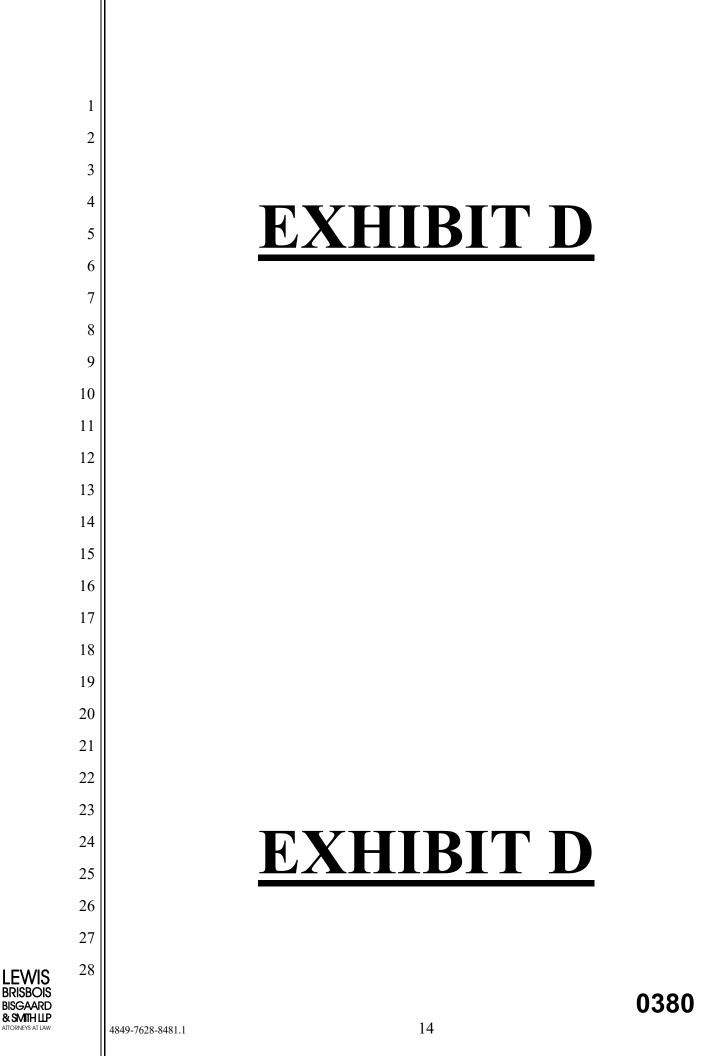
Attached please find written authorization to receive the medical reports, records and bills of my above-referenced client related to this claim. Pursuant to NRS 690B, as amended by SB 435, I request that you provide to my office all pertinent facts or provisions of your insured's policy relating to any coverage at issue, including policy limits. This information must be provided within ten (10) days of the date of this request.

Sincerely,

Daniel Price

Daniel R. Price PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC

> Office: 702-941-0503 Fax: 702-507-2335 Email: info@pricebeckstromlaw.com 7312 West Cheyenne Avenue Ste. 5, Las Vegas, Nevada 89129





GEICO Advantage Insurance Company

Attn: Region IV Claims, PO Box 509119 San Diego, CA 92150-9914

9/4/2020

Price Beckstom Attorneys At Law

7312 W CHEYENNE AVE STE 5 Las Vegas, NV 89129-7425

Company Name: Claim Number: Loss Date: Policyholder: Driver: GEICO Advantage Insurance Company 027998674 0101 014 Saturday, July 25, 2020 Berenice Domenzain-rodriguez Edward Rodriguez moya

Dear Price Beckstom Attorneys At Law,

We acknowledge your request for the disclosure of our insured's bodily injury liability limits regarding your clients, Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner and Sydney Kaner.

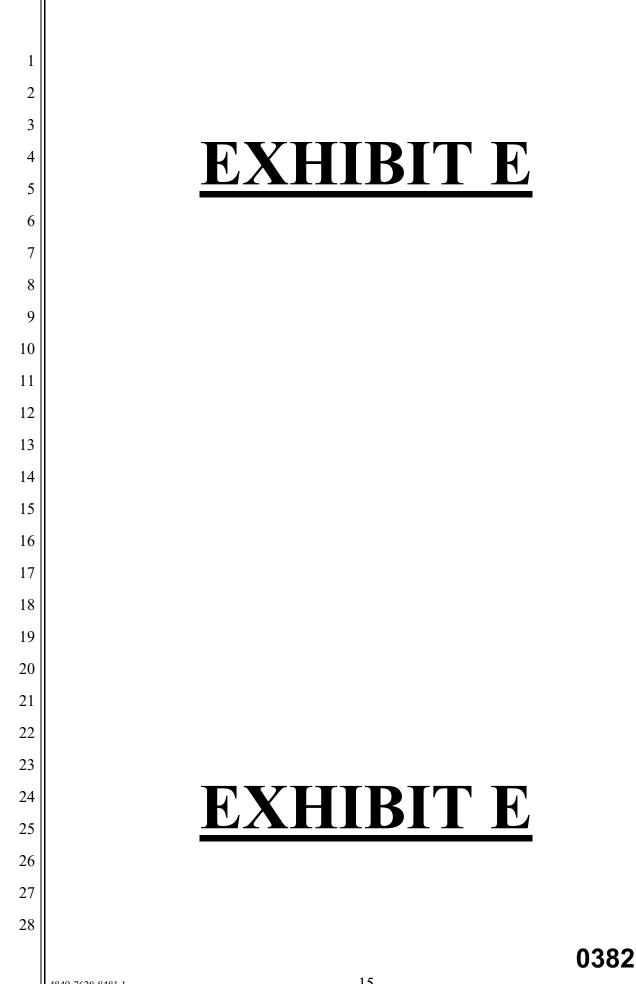
Please accept this letter as confirmation of the available coverage in lieu of a Declarations Page and/or policy. The limits for this policy for the date of loss, 07/25/2020, is \$25,000/\$50,000.

Please note that we are respectfully denying your client's injury claim as having no causal relationship to this loss. We will not be collecting any medical records for this file.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please call me at the number listed below.

Sincerely,

Whitney Atterberry 520-546-5254 Claims Department



.EWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH ШР ORNEYS AT LAW



<u>Time-Limited Settlement Offer</u>

October 22, 2020

Whitney Atterberry GEICO Advantage Insurance Company PO Box 509119 San Diego, CA 92150

Re:	Your insureds :	Berenice Domenzain-Rodriguez &
		Edward J Rodriguez Moya
	Date of Loss :	7/25/2020
Claim Number:		0279986740101014
	My Clients :	Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner and Sydney Kaner

Dear Ms. Atterberry:

I represent Judith Salter and Joshua Kaner (both individually and as the parent and guardian of minor Sydney Kaner) in connection with the above-referenced date of loss. This letter is a timelimited settlement offer on behalf of my clients. This is an attempt to resolve all of my clients' claims, that they have now or may have in the future, arising from this loss against your insured within the limits of your insureds' insurance policy. This settlement offer is not intended to be used in future litigation. Please consider the below information along with the attached documents as you evaluate this offer.

My clients' make this one-time offer to settle all of my clients' claims arising from this loss against your insured in exchange for the formal limits of your insureds' policy limits of \$50,000 as a global tender.

<u>This offer expires on November 23, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., Pacific Time.</u> This offer can only be accepted by the following performance, accomplished prior to the expiration of this offer:

1) Receipt of \$50,000 (the global policy limits of this policy) in my office, payable to "Price Beckstrom, PLLC, Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner, and Sydney Kaner".

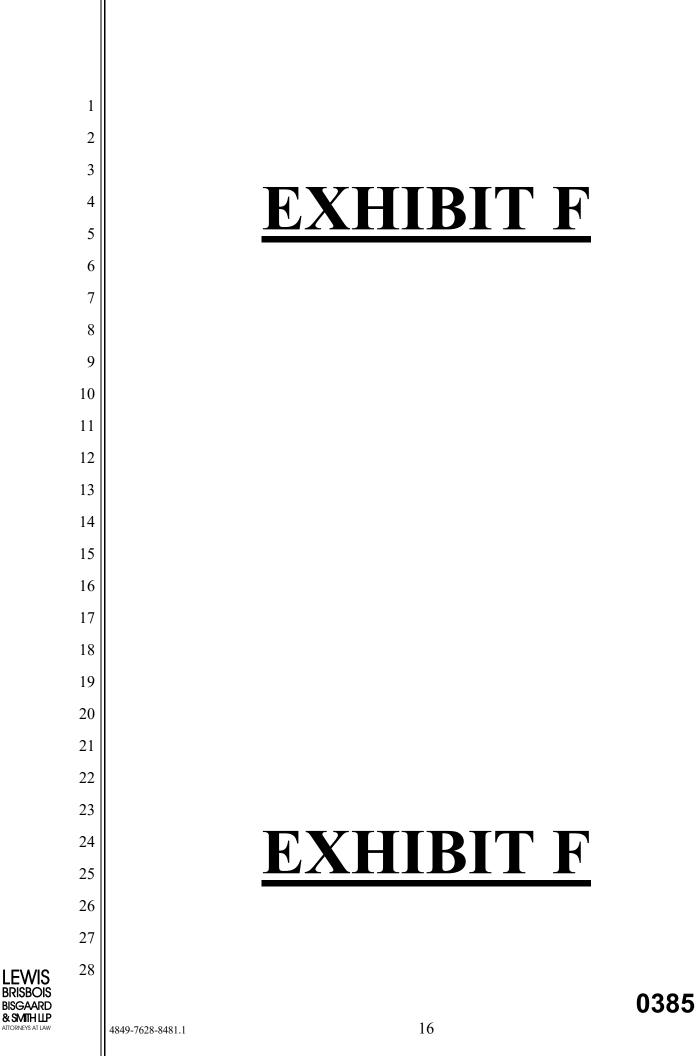
My clients reserve all rights and defenses, known or unknown, that arise in law or equity. No comment, action, or inaction should be construed as to waive, alter, or modify any rights and or defenses possessed by my client. Please accept this letter as written confirmation that my office will protect any and all liens applicable to this claim and hold harmless your insureds and GEICO Advantage Insurance Company. My clients have ongoing pain and symptoms from this incident and may require, or may have required, medical care in addition to the care evidenced by the attached documents. Additionally, all funds attributable to minor Sydney Kaner will be held in trust until an order is issued from the appropriate court compromising the minor's claim,

Office: 702-941-0503 Fax: 702-832-4026 info@pbnv.law 7312 W Cheyenne Ave Suite 5, Las Vegas, NV 89129 and at such time the funds will be distributed as ordered by the court. Following acceptance of this offer my clients will execute a release of all claims in favor of your insureds. A copy of my firm's W-9 is attached.

Sincerely,

Daniel Price

Daniel R. Price, Esq. PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC





GEICO Advantage Insurance Company

Attn: Region IV Claims, PO Box 509119 San Diego, CA 92150-9914

11/12/2020

Price Beckstom Pllc

7312 W CHEYENNE AVE STE 5 Las Vegas, NV 89129-7425

Company Name: Claim Number: Loss Date: Policyholder: Driver: Clients: GEICO Advantage Insurance Company 027998674 0101 014 Saturday, July 25, 2020 Berenice Domenzain-rodriguez Edward Rodriguez moya Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner and Sydney Kaner

Dear Price Beckstom Pllc,

Please be advised that there were a total of three (3) injured parties that were involved in the above referenced loss.

We have Bodily Injury Coverage on our policy with limits of \$25,000.00 per person/ \$50,000.00 per occurrence. At this time, we are extending an offer of the global limit of \$50,000.00 to settle the three (3) bodily injury claims presented in this loss.

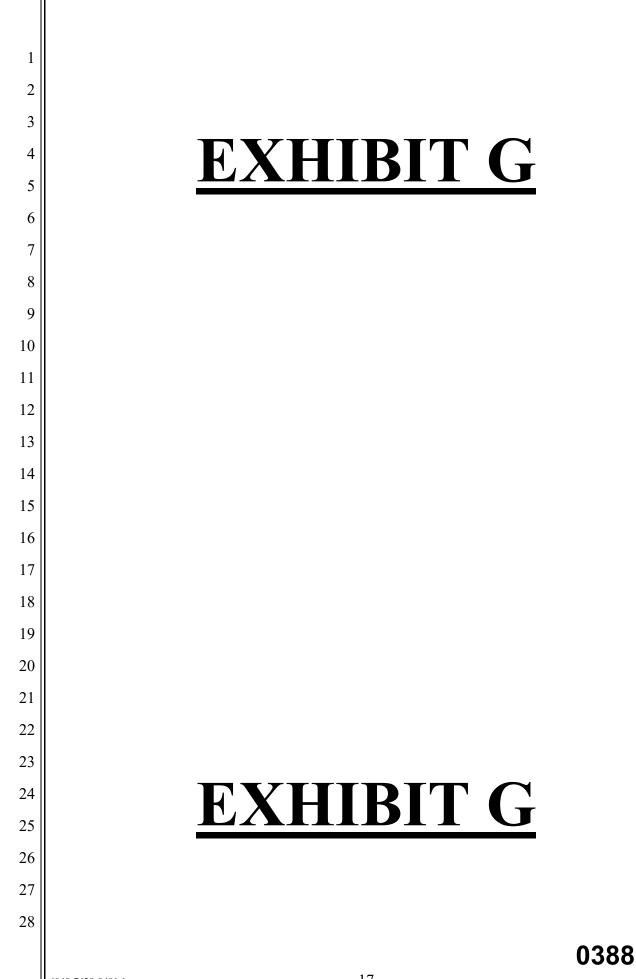
Please take this matter under consideration to come up with a distribution of our remaining policy limits (with no one person receiving more than the \$25,000.00 single policy limit and all parties limited to \$50,000.00 combined.) Please notify me when you have come to a conclusion regarding the disbursement of the remaining limits.

Please note that all parties must agree to settlement before we can issue payments. We will coordinate with all parties to assist in the agreement and anticipated resolution to include the utilization of a mediator if necessary.

Please note given the nature of the case we will request court approval for any minors involved.

Sincerely,

Whitney Atterberry 520-546-5254 Claims Department



BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH ШР ORNEYS AT LAW

.EWIS

4849-7628-8481.1



December 1, 2020

Whitney Atterberry GEICO PO Box 509119 San Diego, CA 92150 *Via Document Upload*

Re: Your insured :		Berenice Domenzain-Rodriguez & Edward J Rodriguez Moya
	Date of Loss :	7/25/2020
	Claim Number:	0279986740101014
	My Clients :	Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner and Sydney Kaner

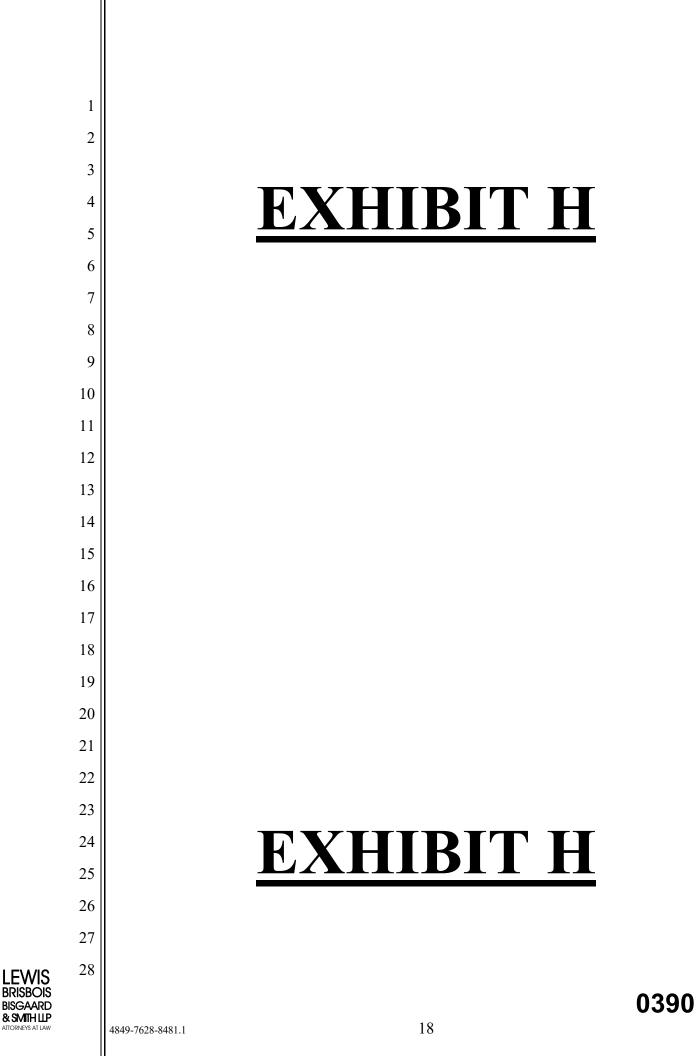
Dear Ms. Atterberry:

My clients were surprised that you did not accept their settlement offer dated October 22, 2020. We did receive your counteroffer dated November 12, 2020, which my clients reject.

Sincerely,

Daniel Price

Daniel R. Price, Esq. PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC



DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Negligence - Auto		COURT MINUTES	March 15, 2021		
A-20-827003-C	Judith Salter, Pl vs. Edward Rodrig	laintiff(s) guez Moya, Defendant(s)			
March 15, 2021	3:00 AM	Minute Order			
HEARD BY: Bluth,	Jacqueline M.	COURTROOM:	RJC Courtroom 10C		
COURT CLERK: Keith Reed					
RECORDER:					
REPORTER:					
PARTIES PRESENT:					

JOURNAL ENTRIES

- Having considered Defendants Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement, Plaintiffs Opposition, and Defendants Reply, the motion is hereby DENIED. Plaintiffs Judith Salter, Joshua Kamer, and minor Sydney Kamer allege that they were involved in a motor-vehicle collision involving the defendants which occurred on or about July 25, 2020. Plaintiffs allege they were rear-ended by Defendants and sustained injuries as a result. On October 22, 2020, Plaintiffs sent a Time-Limited Settlement Offer to Defendants. The offer required acceptance by performance and included the following language:

My clients make this one-time offer to settle all of my clients claims arising from this loss against your insured in exchange for the formal limits of your insureds policy limits of \$50,000 as a global tender. This offer expires on November 23, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., Pacific Time. This offer can only be accepted by the following performance, accomplished prior to the expiration of this offer:

1) Receipt of \$50,000 (the global policy limits of this policy) in my office, payable to Price Beckstrom, PLLC, Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner, and Sydney Kaner.

(Plaintiffs 10/22/20 Settlement Offer) (emphasis added). GEICO responded to Plaintiffs settlement offer with a letter dated November 12, 2020, stating:

We have Bodily Injury Coverage on our policy with limits of \$25,000.00 per person/\$50,000.00 perPRINT DATE:03/17/2021Page 1 of 2Minutes Date:March 15, 2021

occurrence. At this time, we are extending an offer of the global limit of \$50,000.00 to settle the three (3) bodily injury claims presented in this loss.

Please take this matter under consideration to come up with a distribution of our remaining policy limits (with no one person receiving more than the \$25,000.00 single policy limit and all parties limited to \$50,000.00 combined.) Please notify me when you have come to a conclusion regarding the disbursement of the remaining limits.

GEICO's 11/12/20 Letter. Defendants now argue that the November 12, 2020 letter sent to Plaintiffs constituted valid acceptance of the settlement offer and request that this Court enforce the agreement. Acceptance of an offer is a manifestation of assent to the terms thereof made by the offeree in a manner invited or required by the offer. Eagle Materials, Inc. v. Stiren, 127 Nev. 1131, 373 P.3d 911 (2011); (citing Restatement (Second) of Contracts 50 (1981)). Where an offer invites an offeree to accept by rendering a performance ... [a] contract is created when the offeree tenders or begins the invited performance. Id. (citing Restatement (Second) of Contracts 45 (1981)). Where the offer requires acceptance by performance and does not invite a return promise ... a contract ca be created only by the offeree's performance. Restatement (Second) of Contracts 50 (1981). A mere promise to perform, without actual performance, does not constitute valid acceptance in such a situation. Id. Plaintiff's October 22, 2020 Settlement Offer clearly states that the offer can only be accepted by performance accomplished prior to the expiration of the offer. It is undisputed that Defendants did not provide payment in the manner specified prior to the deadline. Accordingly, the essential element of acceptance is not present to form an enforceable contract and Defendants motion is DENIED. Plaintiff's counsel shall promptly submit a proposed order.

CLERK'S NOTE: The above minute order has been distributed via e-mail to: Attorneys Daniel R. Price & Darrell D. Dennis. kar 3/16/21

P PRICE BECKSTROM "LC ATTORNEYS AT LAW	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	OPP Daniel R. Price (NV Bar No. 13564) Christopher Beckstrom (NV Bar No. 14031) PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC 1404 S. Jones Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89146 Phone: (702) 941-0503 Fax: (702) 832-4026 info@pbnv.law Attorneys for Plaintiffs DISTRICT C CLARK COUNTY JUDITH SALTER, individually; JOSHUA KANER, individually; and JOSHUA KANER as guardian and natural parent of SYDNEY KANER, a minor; Plaintiffs, v. EDWARD RODRIGUEZ MOYA, an individual; BERENICE DOMENZAIN-RODRIGUEZ, an individual; DOE OWNERS I-V; DOE DRIVERS I-V; ROE EMPLOYERS I-V and ROE COMPANIES I-V; Defendants.			
\overline{P}_{B}	15 16 17	OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF COURT'S MARCH 15, 2021 MINUTE ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO ENFORCE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT			
	18				
	19	Minute Order Denying Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement and set forth the			
	20	following Memorandum of Points and Authorities in s			
	21	DATED this 2nd day of April, 2021.	/s/ Christopher Beckstrom		
	22		aniel R. Price (NV Bar No. 13564) hristopher Beckstrom (NV Bar No. 14031)		
	23	P	RICE BECKSTROM, PLLC 404 S. Jones Blvd.		
	24		as Vegas, Nevada 89146		
		1_	0393		
		— 1 —	Docket 83239 Document 2021-31556		
		Case Number: A-20-8270	003-C		

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MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

This Court recently heard and denied Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement, entering a minute order on March 15, 2021, finding that Defendants' insurance carrier failed to accept Plaintiffs' unambiguous offer to settle for the Defendants' global liability policy limit. The issue presented in that motion was so straightforward that this Court denied the motion without a hearing.

Defendants, having failed in their attempt to enforce a purported settlement agreement, now argue it was legally impossible for them to accept the Plaintiffs' offer. They are wrong, as there is no law or regulation that precluded GEICO from tendering the global policy limit in the manner specified. Further, and importantly, Defendants are estopped in this proceeding or any future proceeding from claiming illegality or impossibility with respect to Plaintiffs' offer, as Defendants have previously represented the contrary before this Court. Finally, even if Defendants were correct in asserting illegality, the result would be the same: there would be no enforceable contract.

I.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

As this Court has recently reviewed the facts of the instant matter, Plaintiffs' recitation of the same herein will be brief. Plaintiffs claim injury from a motor vehicle collision that took place on July 25, 2020, when Defendant Rodriguez-Moya rear-ended the Plaintiffs' vehicle. Although all Plaintiffs sustained serious injury, the most serious was to Plaintiff Joshua Kaner, who underwent an emergency lumbar laminectomy and microdiscektomy under general anesthesia on October 2, 2020:



Post-surgical incision wound

Mr. Kaner is only 30 years old.

Defendants carried one auto insurance policy with liability coverage limits of \$25,000.00 per individual and \$50,000.00 per incident through GEICO Advantage Insurance Company ("GEICO"). Prior to filing suit, Plaintiffs jointly offered to settle all of their claims in exchange for the global \$50,000.00 policy limit. Plaintiffs' offer required acceptance by performance; namely a tender of the \$50,000.00 policy limit to be received in Plaintiffs' counsel's office, payable to "Price Beckstrom, PLLC, Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner, and Sydney Kaner."¹ It is undisputed that GEICO did not complete the requested performance and instead sent its own offer in a letter dated November 12, 2020, stating:

> We have Bodily Injury Coverage on our policy with limits of \$25,000.00 per person/\$50,000.00 per occurrence. At this time, we are extending an offer of the global limit of \$50,000.00 to settle the three (3) bodily injury claims presented in this loss.

¹ Exhibit 1—Plaintiffs' Time-Limited Settlement Offer Dated October 22, 2020.

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Please take this matter under consideration to come up with a distribution of our remaining policy limits (with no one person receiving more than the \$25,000.00 single policy limit and all parties limited to \$50,000.00 combined.) Please notify me when you have come to a conclusion regarding the disbursement of the remaining limits.²

This Court's minute order entered on March 15, 2021, adopted Plaintiff's legal position, stating:

Plaintiff's October 22, 2020 Settlement Offer clearly states that the offer can only be accepted by performance accomplished prior to the expiration of the offer. It is undisputed that Defendants did not provide payment in the manner specified prior to the deadline. Accordingly, the essential element of acceptance is not present to form an enforceable contract and Defendants' motion is DENIED.³

II.

LEGAL ANALYSIS

Defendants now seek reconsideration of their motion to enforce settlement. Defendants present no new evidence. Rather, Defendants argue it was illegal or impossible for GEICO to issue payment in the manner specified. It is important to note that GEICO has raised this issue for the very first time in its instant motion. Before litigation, GEICO did not take the position that payment in the manner specified by Plaintiffs' demand was illegal or impossible. It also did not raise these arguments in its February 12, 2021, Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement. To the contrary, that motion unambiguously asserted that GEICO had in fact accepted Plaintiffs' settlement offer and an enforceable contract had formed.

Herein, Plaintiffs prove 1) It was not illegal for GEICO to issue payment in the manner 19 specified; 2) Defendants are judicially estopped in this and any future proceeding from arguing 20 illegality or impossibility; and 3) even if Defendants arguments of illegality or impossibility were 21 correct (they are not), this still does not create an enforceable contract and the end result is the same. 22

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² Exhibit 2—GEICO Counteroffer Dated November 12, 2020 (emphasis added). ³ Exhibit 3—March 15, 2021, Minute Order.

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A. There is No Illegality or Impossibility Surrounding Plaintiffs' Settlement Offer

i. NRS 485.185 did Not Prevent GEICO from Accepting Plaintiffs' Offer

Defendants have argued NRS 485.185 prevented GEICO from issuing the settlement check in the manner Plaintiffs' offer required. This statute places a requirement on motor vehicle owners to carry liability insurance with certain minimum coverages. Nothing in the statute prevented GEICO from issuing a check for the global policy limit, payable to all claimants.

The Plaintiffs' October 22, 2020, settlement offer was a joint unapportioned settlement offer made by multiple offerors. Defendants want this Court to believe this is somehow a legally complex set of facts. Plaintiffs encourage this Court to again review the settlement offer, attached as Exhibit 1. This was a very simple, straightforward settlement proposal. After learning of the global \$50,000.00 policy limit, Plaintiffs gave GEICO an opportunity to protect its insureds by extending a joint offer to settle all of the injury claims related to the collision. GEICO wants this Court to believe it was *impossible* or *illegal* for it to issue a check for a joint unapportioned settlement offer. This position completely ignores relevant law that specifically allows such offers.

Rule 68 of the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure contemplates this type of settlement offer. Obviously, as Plaintiffs' joint settlement offer was made before litigation, it was not made under NRCP 68. Plaintiffs cite this rule simply to highlight the absurdity of Defendants' position that their offer was somehow illegal. Subsection (c) of NRCP 68 is titled "Joint Unapportioned Offers." Under this heading, NRCP 68(c)(1) reads simply, "A joint offer may be made by multiple offerors."⁴ Multiple parties can make joint unapportioned offers under NRCP 68(f) during litigation. Plaintiffs made a similar offer before this litigation. By Defendants' logic, joint unapportioned offers under

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⁴ NRCP 68(c)(1); see also RTTC Communs., Ltd. Liab. Co. v. The Saratoga Flier, Inc., 121 Nev. 24 34, 42, 110 P.3d 24, 29 (2005) (noting the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure were amended in 1998 to provide for joint unapportioned offers).

NRCP 68 would be illegal. Defendants new position of illegality is the exact opposite of what
 Nevada law provides.

Defendants' reliance on NRS 485.185 to claim Plaintiffs' offer was *illegal* or *impossible* makes even less sense when examined under the specific circumstances of the case at bar. The collision underlying this suit was a two-car incident. When Defendant Rodriguez-Moya struck the Plaintiffs' vehicle, he was alone in his car. The three Plaintiffs named in this suit were the only individuals occupying the Plaintiffs' vehicle. Therefore, these three Plaintiffs were the only people who could make injury claims against Defendants and their GEICO insurance policy. Further, all three Plaintiffs are members of the same family and were represented by the same law firm. It is common for insurance carriers to issue payment for the global policy limit to be distributed by agreement of the claimants. For clear reasons, this process is greatly facilitated when all claimants are family members and share an attorney. If, hypothetically, Plaintiffs' attorneys were to wrongfully distribute settlement funds, the Plaintiffs would have a claim against their attorneys, as in any other case. But, under this hypothetical, Plaintiffs would still be bound by the settlement agreement and could not pursue further relief against the Defendants or GEICO.

In sum, NRS 485.185 sets forth the state-minimum coverage requirements for auto insurance policies and did not prevent GEICO from issuing payment in the manner specified in Plaintiffs' joint settlement offer. Indeed, the fact that the law specifically provides for this type of offer in a litigation setting⁵ lends further credence to the notion that Plaintiffs' offer laid no barrier for GEICO's timely acceptance of the same. On this basis Plaintiffs request not only that this Court deny Defendants' motion, but that its order specifically find that Plaintiffs' offer did not render GEICO's performance illegal or impossible.

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⁵ See NRCP 68(c)(1).

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ii. NRS 41.200 did Not Prevent GEICO from Accepting Plaintiffs' Offer

Defendants have argued NRS 41.200 prevented GEICO from issuing the settlement check because one of the claimants is a minor. This statute governs the procedures and requirements for settling the claim of a minor. To summarize, all settlements of liability claims of minors are subject to court approval, and require the parent or guardian of the minor to file a petition with the district court providing various information about the claim. Once the court approves the settlement, the funds can be disbursed, with any net proceeds of the minor being placed in a blocked trust account until the court orders the funds released when the minor reaches the age of majority. The underlying purpose of the statute is to protect the interests of injured minors and preserve minors' net proceeds from settlements until they are able to take control of the funds.⁶ Viewed in this light, it is clear the statute exists to protect minors both from unfair attorney fees and from the misappropriation of settlement funds by minors' parents.

Plaintiffs' settlement offer anticipated this issue and warranted to GEICO that Sydney Kaner's funds would be held in trust pending court approval: "Additionally, all funds attributable to minor Sydney Kaner will be held in trust until an order is issued from the appropriate court compromising the minor's claim, and at such time the funds will be distributed as ordered by the court."⁷ This language provided adequate legal protection for GEICO. The law provides no mechanism for a breach of the minors' compromise statute to enact punishments upon a settling defendant or their insurance company. To the contrary, a claimant's attorneys may be disciplined by the state bar for failing to obtain court approval for a minors' compromise. Further, the parents or guardians of the minor may face legal penalties for misappropriation of the minor's funds. It is common for settlement funds to be issued with a "Hold in Trust" letter, containing the language

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⁶ Haley v. Dist. Ct., 128 Nev. 171, 177, 273 P.3d 855, 859 (2012) ⁷ Exhibit 1 at 1-2.

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found in Plaintiffs' settlement offer. This language warrants to the payor that the minor's attorney will appropriately handle the funds as required by NRS 41.200, protecting it against any legal ramifications arising from misappropriation of the funds under general principles of equity and estoppel. NRS 41.200 did not provide any legal barrier to the acceptance of Plaintiffs' settlement offer.

B. Defendants are Estopped from Claiming Illegality or Impossibility in Relation to **Plaintiffs' Settlement Offer**

The principle of judicial estoppel prevents Defendants from claiming illegality or impossibility in relation to Plaintiffs' pre-litigation settlement offer. Defendants have taken the position before this Court that a binding, enforceable contract formed. They cannot now claim illegality or impossibility-legal defenses to contract enforcement-in the instant proceeding or in

any future proceeding.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals explained this doctrine as follows:

The doctrine of judicial estoppel, sometimes referred to as the doctrine of preclusion of inconsistent positions, is invoked to prevent a party from changing its position over the course of judicial proceedings when such positional changes have an adverse impact on the judicial process. The policies underlying preclusion of inconsistent positions are general considerations of the orderly administration of justice and regard for the dignity of judicial proceedings. . . . Because it is intended to protect the integrity of the judicial process, it is an equitable doctrine invoked by a court at its discretion. . . . Judicial estoppel is most commonly applied to bar a party from making a factual assertion in a legal proceeding which directly contradicts an earlier assertion made in the same proceeding or a prior one.⁸

Defendants have taken two factually inconsistent positions in this proceeding. In their

Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement of February 12, 2021, Defendants requested this Court 21

⁸ Russell v. Rolfs, 893 F.2d 1033, 1037 (9th Cir. 1990) (internal citations, quotation marks, and 23 brackets omitted); see also Kaur v. Singh, 477 P.3d 358 (Nev. 2020); New Hampshire v. Maine, 532 U.S. 742, 750 (2001) ("Courts have observed that '[t]he circumstances under which judicial estoppel 24 may appropriately be invoked are probably not reducible to any general formulation of principle." (quoting Allen v. Zurich Ins. Co., 667 F.2d 1162, 1166 (4th Cir. 1982))).



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"recognize the settlement agreement as an enforceable contract."⁹ Therein, Defendants made the factual assertion that GEICO "accepted the Plaintiffs' offer on behalf of their clients."¹⁰ Now, in 2 support of the instant Motion for Reconsideration, Defendants have for the first time asserted they 3 could not, actually, have accepted Plaintiffs' offer because to do so would be illegal or impossible.¹¹ 4 5 These are wholly incompatible positions which rely on contradictory factual and legal assertions. 6 Defendants must be estopped from asserting it was illegal or impossible for GEICO to accept 7 Plaintiffs' offer after they previously filed a motion representing before this Court that it had 8 accepted Plaintiffs' settlement offer. To allow otherwise would make a mockery of the judicial 9 process.

Plaintiffs request a finding of estoppel in this Court's order denying the instant motion. The equitable principle of judicial estippel exists to prevent situations like the one at bar, where Plaintiffs and this Court have been placed in the awkward position of analyzing impossibility and illegality-defenses to contract enforcement-after extensively analyzing and taking legal stances in response to Defendants' previous position asserting that GEICO had accepted Plaintiffs' offer and created an enforceable contract. In this way, Defendants have substantially "moved the goalposts," adversely impacting the judicial process. Unless this Court enters a finding of estoppel, Defendants and GEICO will continue to reassert this position with ever more creative, inconsistent arguments in this and in future proceedings related to this car crash.

C. Even if Defendants are Correct, there is no Enforceable Contract

Defendants in their instant motion rely on allegations of impossibility and/or illegality in their arguments. These are legal defenses to contract enforcement. Plaintiffs have made their

- ⁹ Mot. to Enforce Settlement Agreement at 7.
 - ¹⁰ *Id.* at 5.

¹¹ See, e.g., Mot. for Reconsideration at 8 ("[T]he District Court's Minute Order appears to invite parties to present illegal and impossible demands.")

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1 position explicitly clear herein—there is no illegality or impossibility with respect to the facts at bar, 2 and Defendants did not accept Plaintiffs' settlement offer. However, even if Defendants' assertion of 3 these defenses were meritorious, this would not result in an enforceable contract. The result would 4 be the same.

III.

CONCLUSION

Plaintiffs respectfully request not only that the instant Motion for Reconsideration be denied, but that this Court enter a finding that there was no illegality or impossibility with respect to Plaintiffs' very simple, straightforward pre-litigation settlement offer. Finally, Plaintiffs request a finding that Defendants and GEICO are estopped from asserting illegality or impossibility in this or any future proceeding arising from the subject motor vehicle collision.

Dated this 2nd day of April, 2021.

/s/ Christopher Beckstrom

Daniel R. Price (NV Bar No. 13564) Christopher Beckstrom (NV Bar No. 14031) PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC 1404 S. Jones Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, pursuant to NRCP 5, NEFCR 9, and EDCR 8.05, on the 2nd day of

18 April, 2021, a copy of the foregoing *Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration of*

19 Court's March 15, 2021 Minute Order Denying Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement

Agreement was served upon the below through the Court's electronic service system: 20

21	Darrell D. Dennis, Esq.
	Michael R. Smith, Esq.
22	LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP
	6385 S. Rainbow Blvd., Ste 600
23	Las Vegas, NV 89118
	Attorneys for Defendants

/s/ Stephanie Amundsen

An Employee of PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC



EXHIBIT 1



<u>Time-Limited Settlement Offer</u>

October 22, 2020

Whitney Atterberry GEICO Advantage Insurance Company PO Box 509119 San Diego, CA 92150

Re:	Your insureds :	Berenice Domenzain-Rodriguez &
		Edward J Rodriguez Moya
	Date of Loss :	7/25/2020
	Claim Number:	0279986740101014
	My Clients :	Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner and Sydney Kaner

Dear Ms. Atterberry:

I represent Judith Salter and Joshua Kaner (both individually and as the parent and guardian of minor Sydney Kaner) in connection with the above-referenced date of loss. This letter is a timelimited settlement offer on behalf of my clients. This is an attempt to resolve all of my clients' claims, that they have now or may have in the future, arising from this loss against your insured within the limits of your insureds' insurance policy. This settlement offer is not intended to be used in future litigation. Please consider the below information along with the attached documents as you evaluate this offer.

My clients' make this one-time offer to settle all of my clients' claims arising from this loss against your insured in exchange for the formal limits of your insureds' policy limits of \$50,000 as a global tender.

<u>This offer expires on November 23, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., Pacific Time.</u> This offer can only be accepted by the following performance, accomplished prior to the expiration of this offer:

1) Receipt of \$50,000 (the global policy limits of this policy) in my office, payable to "Price Beckstrom, PLLC, Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner, and Sydney Kaner".

My clients reserve all rights and defenses, known or unknown, that arise in law or equity. No comment, action, or inaction should be construed as to waive, alter, or modify any rights and or defenses possessed by my client. Please accept this letter as written confirmation that my office will protect any and all liens applicable to this claim and hold harmless your insureds and GEICO Advantage Insurance Company. My clients have ongoing pain and symptoms from this incident and may require, or may have required, medical care in addition to the care evidenced by the attached documents. Additionally, all funds attributable to minor Sydney Kaner will be held in trust until an order is issued from the appropriate court compromising the minor's claim,

Office: 702-941-0503 Fax: 702-832-4026 info@pbnv.law 7312 W Cheyenne Ave Suite 5, Las Vegas, NV 89129 and at such time the funds will be distributed as ordered by the court. Following acceptance of this offer my clients will execute a release of all claims in favor of your insureds. A copy of my firm's W-9 is attached.

Sincerely,

Daniel Price

Daniel R. Price, Esq. PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC

EXHIBIT 2





Government Employees Insurance Company GEICO General Insurance Company GEICO Indemnity Insurance Company GEICO Casualty Insurance Company

Chevy Chase, MD. Fredericksburg, VA Woodbury, NY Macon, GA

- Poway, CA
- Dallas, TX Lakeland, FL Honolulu, HI.
- Coralville, IA
- Virginia Beach, VA

November 12, 11:55:21 AM EST Date: To: 17028324026 From: ezdefaultreg@geico.com ::LWDA::D227702176::Claim# 0279986740101014 Subj: Total pages: 3

To: Policy Holder: Berenice Domenzain-Rodriguez From: Whitney Atterberry (GEICO Claims Examiner)

Your letter from GEICO is attached.

This email/fax message is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution of this email/fax is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please destroy all paper and electronic copies of the original message.



Attn: Region IV Claims, PO Box 509119 San Diego, CA 92150-9914

11/12/2020

Price Beckstom Pllc

7312 W CHEYENNE AVE STE 5 Las Vegas, NV 89129-7425

Company Name:	GEICO Advantage Insurance Company
Claim Number:	027998674 0101 014
Loss Date:	Saturday, July 25, 2020
Policyholder:	Berenice Domenzain-rodriguez
Driver:	Edward Rodriguez moya
Clients:	Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner and Sydney Kaner

Dear Price Beckstom Pllc,

Please be advised that there were a total of three (3) injured parties that were involved in the above referenced loss.

We have Bodily Injury Coverage on our policy with limits of \$25,000.00 per person/ \$50,000.00 per occurrence. At this time, we are extending an offer of the global limit of \$50,000.00 to settle the three (3) bodily injury claims presented in this loss.

Please take this matter under consideration to come up with a distribution of our remaining policy limits (with no one person receiving more than the \$25,000.00 single policy limit and all parties limited to \$50,000.00 combined.) Please notify me when you have come to a conclusion regarding the disbursement of the remaining limits.

Please note that all parties must agree to settlement before we can issue payments. We will coordinate with all parties to assist in the agreement and anticipated resolution to include the utilization of a mediator if necessary.

Please note given the nature of the case we will request court approval for any minors involved.

Sincerely,

Whitney Atterberry 520-546-5254 Claims Department

EXHIBIT 3

DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Negligence - Auto		COURT MINUTES	March 15, 2021
A-20-827003-C	Judith Salter, P vs. Edward Rodrig		
March 15, 2021	3:00 AM	Minute Order	
HEARD BY: Blu	th, Jacqueline M.	COURTROOM:	RJC Courtroom 10C
COURT CLERK:	Keith Reed		
RECORDER:			
REPORTER:			
PARTIES PRESENT:			

JOURNAL ENTRIES

- Having considered Defendants Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement, Plaintiffs Opposition, and Defendants Reply, the motion is hereby DENIED. Plaintiffs Judith Salter, Joshua Kamer, and minor Sydney Kamer allege that they were involved in a motor-vehicle collision involving the defendants which occurred on or about July 25, 2020. Plaintiffs allege they were rear-ended by Defendants and sustained injuries as a result. On October 22, 2020, Plaintiffs sent a Time-Limited Settlement Offer to Defendants. The offer required acceptance by performance and included the following language:

My clients make this one-time offer to settle all of my clients claims arising from this loss against your insured in exchange for the formal limits of your insureds policy limits of \$50,000 as a global tender. This offer expires on November 23, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., Pacific Time. This offer can only be accepted by the following performance, accomplished prior to the expiration of this offer:

1) Receipt of \$50,000 (the global policy limits of this policy) in my office, payable to Price Beckstrom, PLLC, Judith Salter, Joshua Kaner, and Sydney Kaner.

(Plaintiffs 10/22/20 Settlement Offer) (emphasis added). GEICO responded to Plaintiffs settlement offer with a letter dated November 12, 2020, stating:

We have Bodily Injury Coverage on our policy with limits of \$25,000.00 per person/\$50,000.00 perPRINT DATE:03/16/2021Page 1 of 2Minutes Date:March 15, 2021

occurrence. At this time, we are extending an offer of the global limit of \$50,000.00 to settle the three (3) bodily injury claims presented in this loss.

Please take this matter under consideration to come up with a distribution of our remaining policy limits (with no one person receiving more than the \$25,000.00 single policy limit and all parties limited to \$50,000.00 combined.) Please notify me when you have come to a conclusion regarding the disbursement of the remaining limits.

GEICO's 11/12/20 Letter. Defendants now argue that the November 12, 2020 letter sent to Plaintiffs constituted valid acceptance of the settlement offer and request that this Court enforce the agreement. Acceptance of an offer is a manifestation of assent to the terms thereof made by the offeree in a manner invited or required by the offer. Eagle Materials, Inc. v. Stiren, 127 Nev. 1131, 373 P.3d 911 (2011); (citing Restatement (Second) of Contracts 50 (1981)). Where an offer invites an offeree to accept by rendering a performance ... [a] contract is created when the offeree tenders or begins the invited performance. Id. (citing Restatement (Second) of Contracts 45 (1981)). Where the offer requires acceptance by performance and does not invite a return promise ... a contract ca be created only by the offeree's performance. Restatement (Second) of Contracts 50 (1981). A mere promise to perform, without actual performance, does not constitute valid acceptance in such a situation. Id. Plaintiff's October 22, 2020 Settlement Offer clearly states that the offer can only be accepted by performance accomplished prior to the expiration of the offer. It is undisputed that Defendants did not provide payment in the manner specified prior to the deadline. Accordingly, the essential element of acceptance is not present to form an enforceable contract and Defendants motion is DENIED. Plaintiff's counsel shall promptly submit a proposed order.

CLERK'S NOTE: The above minute order has been distributed via e-mail to: Attorneys Daniel R. Price & Darrell D. Dennis. kar 3/16/21

PRINT DATE: 03/16/2021

Page 2 of 2

Minutes Date: March 1

		Electronically Filed 4/8/2021 4:37 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT		
1	ROPP	Atum A. Atum		
	DARRELL D. DENNIS			
2	Nevada Bar No. 006618			
3	MICHAEL R. SMITH Nevada Bar No. 12641			
4	LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LI	JP		
	6385 S. Rainbow Boulevard, Suite 600			
5	Las Vegas, Nevada 89118 Telephone: 702.893.3383			
6	Facsimile: 702.893.3789			
7	E-Mail: Darrell.Dennis@lewisbrisbois.com			
,	E-Mail: <u>Michael.R.Smith@lewisbrisbois.com</u>			
8	Attorneys for Defendants			
9				
10	EIGHTH JUDICIAI	L DISTRICT COURT		
	CLARK COU	NTY, NEVADA		
11				
12	JUDITH SALTER, individually; JOSHUA	Case No. A-20-827003-C		
13	KANER, individually; and JOSHUA KANER as guardian and natural parent of SYDNEY	Dept. No.: VI		
14	KANER, a minor;	•		
14				
15	Plaintiffs,	DEPENDANTO' DEDI V TO DI AINTHEO!		
16	VS.	DEFENDANTS' REPLY TO PLAINTIFFS' OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS'		
17	EDWARD RODRIGUEZ MOYA, an	MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF COURT'S MARCH 15, 2021 MINUTE		
	individual; BERENICE DOMENZIAN- RODRIGUEZ, an individual; DOE OWNERS	ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS'		
18	I-V; DOE DRIVERS I-V; and ROE	MOTION TO ENFORCE SETTLEMENT		
19	COMPANIES I-V;	AGREEMENT		
20	Defendants.			
21	COME NOW, Defendants EDWARD RODRIGUEZ MOYA and BERENICE			
22				
23	their counsel of record, the law office of LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH, LLP, and			
24	hereby file the instant Reply to Plaintiffs' Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration of			
25	the Court's March 15, 2021, Minute Order der	nying Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement		
26	Agreement.			
27	///			
28	///			
		0413		

LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1	This Deply to Opposition is used.	and based on the attached Manager dyna of Delate and
1		and based on the attached Memorandum of Points and
2		s and pleadings on file with the Court, and any oral
3	argument the Court may entertain at time o	f Hearing.
4		
5	DATED this <u>8th</u> day of April, 2021	
6		LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP
7	By:	[s] Míchael R. Smíth
8		DARRELL D. DENNIS Nevada Bar No. 006618
9		MICHAEL R. SMITH
10		Nevada Bar No. 12641 6385 S. Rainbow Boulevard, Suite 600
11		Las Vegas, Nevada 89118 Attorneys for Defendants
12		Allorneys for Defendants
13		
14		
15		
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1	MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES
2	I.
3	FACTS AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY
4	A. Underlying Facts
5	The alleged facts of the underlying collision are not unusual and are well-known to this
6	Honorable Court. According to plaintiffs JUDITH SALTER, JOSHUA KAMER, and minor
7	SYDNEY KAMER (hereinafter referred to collectively as "plaintiffs"), they were "rear-ended" by
8	a vehicle operated by Defendant EDWARD RODRIGUEZ MOYA, which Defendant EDWARD
9	RODRIGUEZ MOYA owned jointly with his wife, Defendant BERENICE DOMINZIAN-
10	RODRIGUEZ (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Defendants") on July 25, 2020 in Clark
11	County, Nevada.
12	No police were summoned to the scene.
13	Neither vehicle sustained visibly discernable damage. (See, photographs of Plaintiffs'
14	vehicle, attached hereto as Exhibit "A." See also, Photographs of Defendants' vehicle, attached
15	hereto as Exhibit "B.")
16	Days after the alleged event, counsel for the plaintiffs presented the automobile liability
17	insurance carrier for Defendants a letter informing Defendant's automobile liability insurance
18	carrier of the alleged event and of the counsel's representation of the plaintiffs. (See, Plaintiffs'
19	Counsel Letters to Defendants' Insurer, dated July 28 and 29, 2020, attached hereto collectively as
20	Exhibit "C.")
21	In response to plaintiff's counsel's request, Defendants' automobile liability insurance
22	carrier informed plaintiffs of Defendants' applicable automobile liability insurance policy limits of
23	\$25,000.00 per person/ \$50,000.00 per occurrence. (See, Defendants' Automobile Liability
24	Insurer's Letter to Plaintiffs' Counsel dated September 4, 2020, attached hereto as Exhibit "D.")
25	In response to this Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier's notification of the
26	Defendants' automobile liability policy insurance, plaintiffs' counsel sent a "time-sensitive demand
27	letter" to Defendants' insurer in which plaintiffs' counsel demanded the Defendants' entire per
28	occurrence policy limit, to be split among three individuals (one of which is a minor). (See,
	0415

LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW Plaintiffs' Time-Sensitive Settlement Offer to Defendants' insurer dated October 22, 2020, attached
 hereto *sans exhibits* as Exhibit "E.")

In response to the plaintiffs' demand, Defendants' automobile liability policy insurer agreed
to provide the "per occurrence" policy limit to plaintiffs' counsel, subject to the restrictions imposed
on the policy and by Nevada Law. (*See*, Defendants' Automobile Liability Insurer's Letter to
Plaintiffs' Counsel dated November 12, 2020, attached hereto as Exhibit "F.")

Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier accepted the material terms of plaintiffs'
settlement offer and was acting to perform under the plaintiffs' offer. Defendants' automobile
liability insurance carrier was acting to perform under the terms of the plaintiffs' settlement offer
consistent with the limitations imposed upon the Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier
by operation of Nevada Law.

Despite knowing of the limitations placed on Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier by operation of Nevada Law, plaintiffs' counsel received Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier's request for instructions for satisfaction of plaintiffs demands within the confines of the limitations imposed by Nevada Law and elected to remain silent as to Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier's request.

Plaintiffs' counsel did not respond to Defendants' automobile liability insurer's efforts to
perform under plaintiffs' demand until several weeks after the "performance period" lapsed. After
remaining silent, plaintiffs' counsel responded by stating his belief that Defendants' insurer's
reliance on the language of NRS § 485.185 was a rejection and counter-offer. (*See*, Plaintiffs'
Counsel rejection letter dated December 1, 2020, attached hereto as Exhibit "G.")

Defendants assert that Defendants and their automobile liability insurance carrier could not have performed by presenting a single check for three individual claimants, especially as one claimant was a minor.¹

Due to the limitations placed on Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier by
Nevada Law, performance of plaintiffs' demand was not possible without clarification of the issues

- 27 28
- ¹ See, Nevada Revised Statutes § 41.200 and § 485.185, discussed herein.

1 presented in Defendants' Automobile Liability Insurer's Letter dated November 12, 2020. (Ex. F.)

2 By failing to respond to Defendants' Automobile Liability Insurer's request for instructions 3 to allow for compliance with Nevada Law, plaintiffs' counsel actively thwarted Defendants' ability to perform under the plaintiffs' offer. 4

5

The material terms of the agreement (the total amount to be paid to plaintiffs in exchange 6 for release of all claims) were understood and agreed to by all parties.

7 Performance of the agreement was actively and intentionally undermined by plaintiffs' 8 counsel. As a consequence, Defendants filed a Motion to Enforce Settlement, which the District 9 Court denied without hearing.

10

B. **Court Order**

11 A Hearing on Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement was scheduled for Hearing for 12 March 17, 2021, but on March 15, 2021, the District Court issued a Minute Order on Defendants' 13 Motion to Enforce Settlement. (See, District Court Minute Order dated March 15, 2021, attached 14 hereto as Exhibit "H.") The Court's Minute Order resulted in the March 17, 2021, Hearing being 15 vacated.

16 In the District Court's March 15, 2021, Minute Order, the District Court stated plaintiffs' 17 offer could only be accepted by performance, that is, by providing a single settlement check to 18 plaintiffs' counsel for three claimants (one of whom was and is a minor), by the date and time 19 presented in the offer. (Id.) The District Court acknowledged the Defendants' insurer's request for 20 information, and stated this was not performance. (Id.) The District Court cited the Restatement 21 (Second) of Contracts and said, "A mere promise to perform, without actual performance, does not 22 constitute valid acceptance in such a situation." (Id.)

23 The District Court did not address the limitations of automobile liability insurance policies 24 as articulated by NRS § 485.185.

25 The District Court did not address the requirements for a compromise of minor's claim as requested by Defendants' automobile liability insurance provider, despite this being a required under 26 27 Nevada Law. (See, NRS § 41.200.)



The District Court did not address the Defendants' automobile liability insurer's attempts to
 comply with state law. The District Court did not address plaintiffs' counsel's silence as to
 Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier's requests for instructions on rectifying the issues
 prior to the date for acceptance.

By failing to address Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier's legitimate legal
concerns in complying with plaintiffs' demand, the District Court did not provide a method by which
Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier could perform under the contract and still
maintain compliance with Nevada Law.

By failing to address plaintiffs' counsel's silence in response to Defendants' automobile
liability insurance carrier's efforts to legal comply with plaintiffs' demand, the District Court has
failed to provide necessary guidance on how defendants and their insurers should address illegal
and impossible demands in the future.

As such, the instant Motion for Reconsideration is necessary.

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II.

LEGAL ARGUMENT

Defendants contend the District Court 1) failed to fully evaluate the plaintiffs' offer; 2) failed to address the inherent restrictions placed on Defendants' insurer in accepting the offer; 3) failed to consider the Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier's good faith efforts to perform under the plaintiff's offer; and 4) plaintiffs' counsel's calculated silence in preventing Defendants' insurer from performing under the offer. Defendants contend that the failure to consider these factors results in the District Court's March 15, 2021, Minute Order being clearly erroneous such that reconsideration is necessary.

Arguments in support of Defendants' position have been submitted to the Court.

In response to Defendants' positions, plaintiffs filed an Objection to Defendants' Motion for
Reconsideration. While this is not unusual and not unexpected, several key points presented in
plaintiffs' Objection require clarification.

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NIS BOIS AARD

A.

Plaintiffs Mischaracterize Defendants' Position on Illegality of Performance and Illegality of Contract.

3	In their opposition, plaintiffs make the following accusation:
4	Defendants present no new evidence. Rather, Defendants argue it was illegal for or impossible for GEICO to issue payment in the manner
5	specified. It is important to note that GEICO has raised this issue for the
6	very first time in its instant motion. Before litigation, GEICO did not take the position that payment in the manner specified by Plaintiffs' demand was
7	illegal or impossible. It also did not raise these arguments in its February 12, 2021, Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement, To the contrary, that
8	Motion unambiguously asserted that GEICO had in fact accepted Plaintiffs' settlement offer and an enforceable contract had formed.
9	(See, Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration,
10	specifically at 4:11-18, on file with the Court.)
11	This paragraph contains several assertions which must be addressed.
12	First Assertion-
13	The first assertion made by plaintiffs is that Defendants present no new evidence. This is a
14	true statement. All of the evidence presented by Defendants in their Motion to Enforce Settlement
15	is the same evidence presented in Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration.
16	Defendants are not requesting reconsideration based upon new evidence, but are rather
17	requesting reconsideration to allow for review and commentary on facts and Nevada Statutes which
18	were not addressed in the District Court's March 15, 2021, Minute Order. This is proper. (See
19	generally, <u>Masonry & Tile Contractors' Assoc. v. Jolley, Urga & Wirth Ass'n.</u> , 113 Nev. 737, 941
20	P.2d 486 (1997) and <i>Trail v. Faretto</i> , 91 Nev. 401, 536 P.2d 1026 (1975).)
21	Second Assertion-
22	The second assertion made by plaintiffs is that Defendants argue/argued that it was illegal
23	or impossible for their automobile liability insurance provider (GEICO) to issue payment in the
24	manner specified, which was one check for three individual claimants, one of whom was a minor.
25	The second assertion is somewhat truthfully made- Defendants assert that it was not possible for

them to provide one settlement draft for three individuals, one of whom was a minor, in exchange
for the release of all claims and still remain in compliance with Nevada Law. Defendants have

27 For the release of an elamis and still reliant in compliance with revada Law. Derendants have
28 presented Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") § 485.185 and NRS § 41.200 in support of this position.



Defendants did not state that the offer or the contract were illegal, only that providing one settlement
 check for all three plaintiffs was not permitted by Nevada Law. The demanded method of
 performance, which was inconsistent with Nevada Law, was not possible and so Defendants'
 automobile liability insurance provider sought from plaintiffs' counsel instructions on how to
 provide the demanded sums and remain compliant with Nevada Law. (Ex. D & F.)

6 The absence of instruction on how to perform without addressing the limitations placed on
7 Defendants and their automobile liability insurance carrier is what warranted the instant Motion for
8 Reconsideration.

9 Nevada Revised Statute § 485.185 is Nevada's minimum automobile liability insurance
10 coverage statute, which states Nevada automobile operators are required to maintain liability
11 insurance "In the amount of \$25,000 for bodily injury or death of one person in any one crash" and
12 "Subject to the limit for one person, in the amount of \$50,000.00 for bodily injury to or death of two
13 or more persons in any one crash." (*See*, NRS § 485.185.)

By operation of this law, any payment provided by Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier is "subject to the limit for one person" such that no one person in a multi-participant event would be able to recover from the automobile liability insurance carrier an amount greater than the amount of the single-person limits of the subject insurance policy.

18 Nevada Revised Statute § 41.200 is Nevada's Minor's Compromise Claim Statute, which
19 was designed to protect those minors who have legitimate claims against third-party tortfeasors.
20 (See, NRS § 41.200.)

The second assertion is truthful with respect to the claim that Defendants assert that they could not perform in the manner demanded without ignoring Nevada Law, and this assertion is not disputed by Defendants. Defendants and their automobile liability insurance carrier could not provide a single check to three claimants, one of whom was a minor, without addressing the limitations placed on them by Nevada Law.

26 Third Assertion-

The third assertion, that Defendants raised the illegality of the form in which plaintiffs demanded performance for the first time in Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, ignores the



fact Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier notified plaintiffs' counsel of the limitations
 several times prior to the instant litigation (Ex. D & F).

-

3 Plaintiffs' thirdd assertion also ignores the fact the Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier's inability to provide payment in the manner specified was the entire argument 4 5 presented in Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement. (See, Defendants' Motion to Enforce 6 Settlement and Reply thereto, on file with the Court.) In that Motion, Defendants argued that they were not able to provide a single settlement draft to plaintiffs' counsel. (Id.) In that Motion, 7 Defendants argued the plaintiffs demanded the "policy limits" of \$50,000.00, which were the 8 9 plaintiffs' material terms, and Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier agreed to provide 10 this amount, but stated the payment could not be made by way of providing a single check. (Id.) 11 The form of the payment/manner of the payment was not a material term to plaintiffs' agreement; 12 the form of the payment/manner of the payment was a limitation placed on Defendants' automobile 13 liability insurance carrier by operation of Nevada Law that was known to plaintiffs.

The statues limiting Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier were presented in
Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement. The existence of the limitations was
presented and discussed both pre-litigation and in Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement.

17 It is not clear upon which facts plaintiffs make the assertion that the Defendants' position
18 regarding the form/manner of payment was not possible. The third assertion is easily demonstrated
19 as incorrect.

20

Fourth Assertion-

21 The fourth assertion, that Defendants "unambiguously asserts that GEICO had in fact 22 accepted Plaintiffs' settlement offer and an enforceable contract had formed" is correct.

In their Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement, Defendants presented the Nevada
Supreme Court decision of <u>May v. Anderson</u>, 121 Nev. 668, 119 P.3d 1254 (2005), in which the
Nevada Supreme Court stated

Because a settlement agreement is a contract, its construction and formation are governed by principles of contract law. basic contract principles require, for an enforceable contract, an offer and acceptance, meeting of the minds, and consideration. With respect to contact formation, preliminary negotiations do not constitute a binding contract unless the parties have agreed to all material terms. A



valid contract cannot exist when material terms are lacking or are insufficiently certain and definite. A contract can be formed. however, when the parties have agreed to the material terms, even though the contract's exact language is not finalized until later. In the case of a settlement agreement, a court cannot compel compliance when material terms remain uncertain. The court must be able to ascertain what is required of the respective parties. (*Id.* at 672, 119 P.3d at 1257.)

In the instant matter, all essential elements exist to allow the Honorable Court to determine
a valid settlement agreement existed- there was an offer made by plaintiffs to accept the total of
\$50,000.00 in exchange for all three of their claims; there was a meeting of the minds of the essential
terms (the amount provided in exchange for the dismissal of potential claims); and consideration
(dismissal of pursuit of claims in exchange for the amount to be provided).

Plaintiffs twist this basic framework into attempting to assert that Defendants believe the contract was illegal. That is not the case- the Defendants assert that the core terms of the agreement were established and agreed upon by all parties, only that the method of demanded performance (one check for settlement of all three claims) was impossible as stated to plaintiffs several times before and after plaintiffs' offer was made. (Ex. D & F.)

In Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, Defendants argued the Honorable Court's March 15, 2021, Minute Order stated that only performance of the offer (providing a single check for all three claimants, without consideration of NRS § 485.185 and NRS § 41.200) was sufficient to demonstrate acceptance of the offer and the March 15, 2021, Minute Order did not provide a method for Defendants (and their automobile liability insurance carrier) to perform without violating these statutes.

Defendants argued that the courts will not enforce illegal contracts, and that as the courts will not enforce illegal contracts, the courts should not encourage violation or avoidance of laws in performing contracts. This was the position presented by Defendants in their Motion to Enforce Settlement and the Motion for Reconsideration- that the Court will not enforce illegal contracts, but that the Court's position that performance was the only method of acceptance of plaintiffs' offer ignored the constraints placed upon Defendants by Nevada Law. The Defendants could have performed the essential terms of the contract (payment of the totality of the underlying automobile



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liability insurance policy) in a variety of ways which did not violate NRS § 485.185 or NRS §
 41.200.

3 By confusing and contorting Defendants' position, plaintiffs argue that Defendants somehow argue that the underlying settlement agreement was illegal but should nonetheless be 4 5 enforced. Plaintiffs present Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure ("NRCP") Rule 68 concerning offers of judgment as support for their position, but fail to inform this Honorable Court of the clear 6 7 distinctions between the statutes presented by Defendants and the purposes of offers of judgment. 8 While it is certainly true that NRCP 68 allows multiple offerors to make a single offer, this 9 simplification of the purpose and effect of this Rule on cases in litigation does not address the fact 10 that after acceptance of offer envisioned by plaintiffs, the amount of the offered amount must still 11 be divided amongst the offerors. The purpose of offers of judgment is to facilitate resolution of 12 cases before the courts. The purpose of pre-litigation "policy limits demands" as the type presented 13 by plaintiffs in the instant dispute are to facilitate resolution prior to litigation. As they are demands 14 on the policy, these demands are subject to the limitations placed on automobile liability insurance 15 policies by NRS § 485.185.

Defendants also argue that NRS § 41.200 (Nevada's Minor Compromise Claim Statute)
required addressing as part and parcel of the performance of plaintiffs' offer.

In their Opposition, plaintiffs explain the necessity of Court approval of a minor's bodily
injury claim and assert that the purpose of this statute is to protect the interests of the minor.
Plaintiffs continue by stating, "it is clear the statute exists to protect minors both from unfair attorney
fees and from the misappropriation of settlement funds by minors' parents. (*See*, Plaintiff's
Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, specifically at 7:10-12, on file with the
Court.)

Plaintiffs fail to inform this Honorable Court of another aspect of the minor's compromise
scheme, which is to protect defendants and their insurers from future uncertainty. The minor's
compromise scheme provides finality of judgment for defendants and their insurers.

The plaintiffs claim "the law has no mechanism for breach of the minor's compromise statute to enact punishments upon a settling defendant or their insurance company." (*Id.* at 7.17-19.) What

1	plaintiffs fail to clarify is that punishments are not the concern of defendants or their insurers when
2	dealing with minors' claims. The omitted concern for defendants and their insurers is NRS § 11.250,
3	which provides minors with two years after reaching the age of majority the right to bring an action.
4	(See, NRS § 11.250.)
5	Statutes of limitation are designed to serve legitimate purposes, including to assure a
6	potential defendant that they will not be liable under the law for an alleged wrong for an indefinite
7	period of time. (See, State Indus. Ins. System v. Jesch, 101 Nev. 690, 694-95, 709 P.2d 172, 175-76
8	(1985).)
9	While the time period provided by NRS § 11.250 is not an indefinite period, the purpose and
10	intent of statutes of limitation are satisfied by enactment of NRS § 41.200.
11	B. Despite Allegations Made by Plaintiffs, Defendants Have Not Stated the Settlement Offer was Illegal
12	Settlement Offer was Illegal.
13	As stated herein and the pleadings presented to this Honorable Court, Defendants assert the
14	Plaintiffs' Settlement Offer was valid and enforceable, which is the exact opposite of illegal and
15	unenforceable. If Defendants did not believe this position, no Motion to Enforce Settlement
16	Agreement would have ever been filed.
17	What Defendants are asserting is that performance, which required recognition of Nevada
18	Statutes, was intentionally thwarted by plaintiffs by way of failure to respond to multiple requests
19	for instructions on how to comply with the statutes in question and perform the essential terms of
20	the plaintiffs' settlement offer.
21	As stated above, the plaintiffs presented a "policy limits demand" which by its nature
22	implicated the applicable policy limits, both per-person and per-incident, and the statutes concerning
23	automobile liability insurance.
24	In responding to and accepting plaintiffs' settlement offer, Defendants, through their

In responding to and accepting plaintiffs' settlement offer, Defendants, through their
automobile liability policy carrier, informed plaintiffs of the limitations imposed by the State of
Nevada in performing plaintiff's settlement offer. The material terms as presented by plaintiffs (a
total of \$50,000.00 for release of all three plaintiffs' potential claims), was accepted by Defendants.
The hiccup was in performance- the issues created by plaintiffs could have been resolved by



plaintiffs by responding to Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier's request for
 instructions on how to perform under the known limitations.

- In the Court's March 15, 2021, Minute Order, this Honorable Court stated the failure of the
 underlying contract was a failure of performance. In so stating, without more, the Honorable Court
 did not present guidance on how to resolve this dilemma moving forward. The scenario of several
 claimants presenting demands to a single automobile liability insurance policy will surely happen
 again.
- 8 Interestingly, the concern for future proceedings is also claimed by plaintiffs, but without 9 resolution of the situation presently presented to this Honorable Court, defendants and their 10 respective automobile liability insurers will not know if compliance with Nevada statutes is 11 required, permissive, or just a suggestion. By requesting estoppel, plaintiffs are essentially 12 requesting this Honorable Court deny future litigants or their insurers their right to seek clarification 13 of the issue.
- 14 For these reasons, Reconsideration of Defendant's Motion to Enforce Settlement is proper15 and necessary.
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- 17

III. CONCLUSION

- Defendants assert that there was an offer and acceptance, that there was a meeting of the minds and agreement of all material terms, and that there was consideration. sufficient to support a finding that a valid contract had been formed by the parties. Defendants assert that they manifested assent to plaintiffs' terms sufficient to bind the parties to the contract. Defendants assert that the limitations imposed on performance by way of Nevada Revised Statutes impaired tender of the agreed-upon funds and that plaintiffs owed a duty to Defendants to resolve this issue, such that the plaintiffs' failure to respond prevented complete performance.
- In deciding Defendant's Motion to Enforce Settlement, the District Court issued a Minute Order which stated the only way Defendants' automobile liability insurance carrier could accept the plaintiffs' offer was to perform under the offer. The District Court's decision failed to consider the fact that strict performance under the plaintiffs' offer was impossible, as strict performance under



the offered terms would be in violation of Nevada Law. The District Court's decision failed to consider the fact that Defendants' insurer attempted performance by attempting to satisfy the material terms of plaintiffs' demand in a legal manner. The District Court's decision failed to address plaintiffs' counsel's silence in responding to Defendants' insurer's attempt to perform under plaintiffs' demand in a legal manner.

As such, Defendants respectfully request this Honorable Court to Reconsider the Court's
March 15, 2021, Minute Order denying Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement, and
allow Hearing on Defendants' Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement.

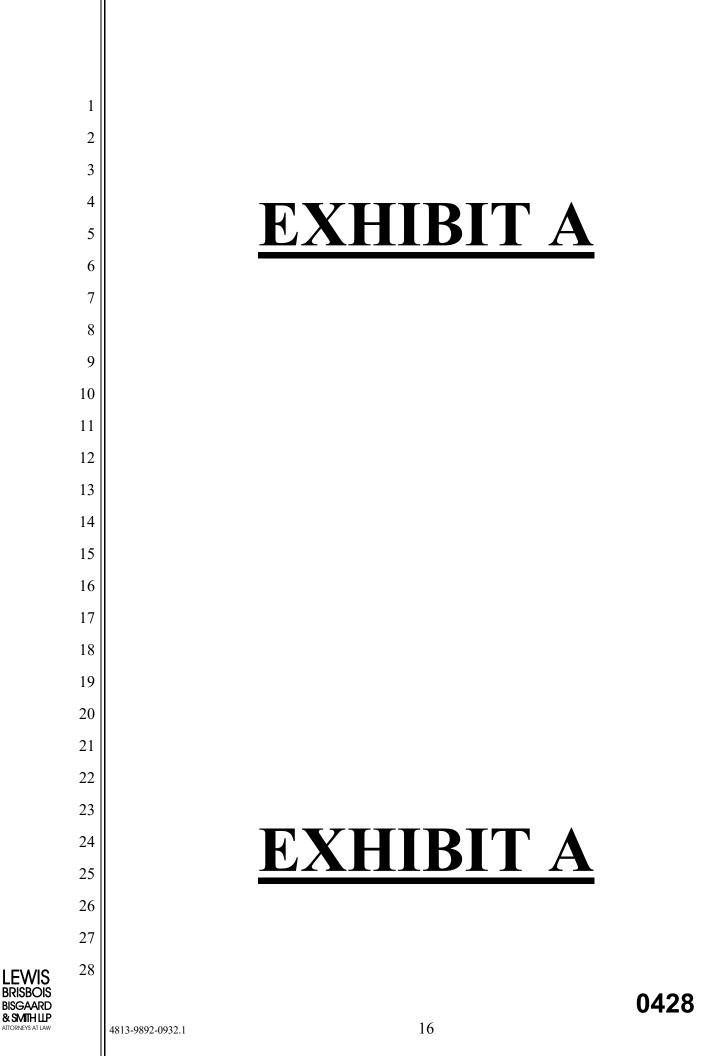
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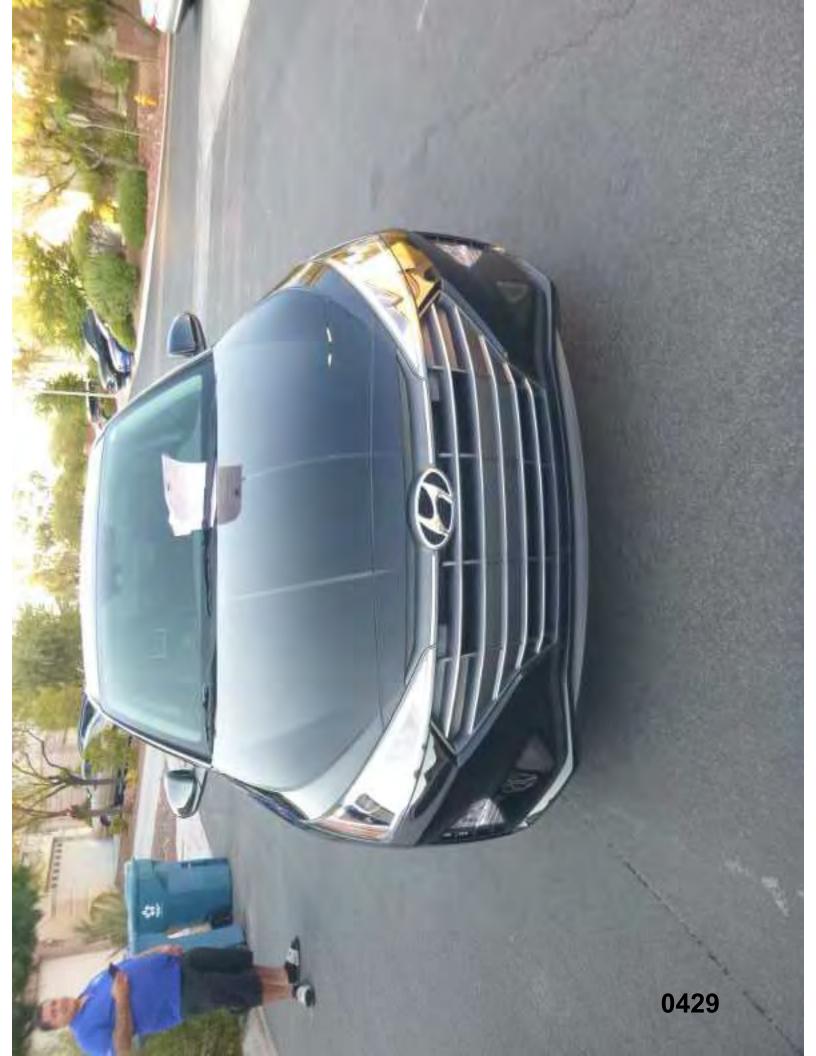
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12		By:	/s/ Míchael R. Smí DARRELL D. DENNIS	ln
13			Nevada Bar No. 006618	
14			MICHAEL R. SMITH Nevada Bar No. 12641	
15			6385 S. Rainbow Boulevard, Suit Las Vegas, Nevada 89118	te 600
16			Attorneys for Defendants	
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1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
2	Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee of LEWIS BRISBOIS	
3	BISGAARD & SMITH LLP and that on this <u>8th</u> day of April, 2021, I did cause a true copy of the	
4	foregoing DEFENDANTS' REPLY TO PLAINTIFFS' OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS'	
5	MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF COURT'S MARCH 15, 2021 MINUTE ORDER	
6	DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO ENFORCE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, to be	
7	served via the Court's electronic filing and service system to all parties on the current service list.	
8	Daniel R. Price	
9	Christopher Beckstrom	
10	PRICE BECKSTROM, PLLC 1404 South Jones Blvd.	
11	Las Vegas, NV 89146 Attorneys for Plaintiff	
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13		
14	By <u>/s/ Gabríela Mercado</u> Gabriela Mercado, An Employee of	
15	LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP	
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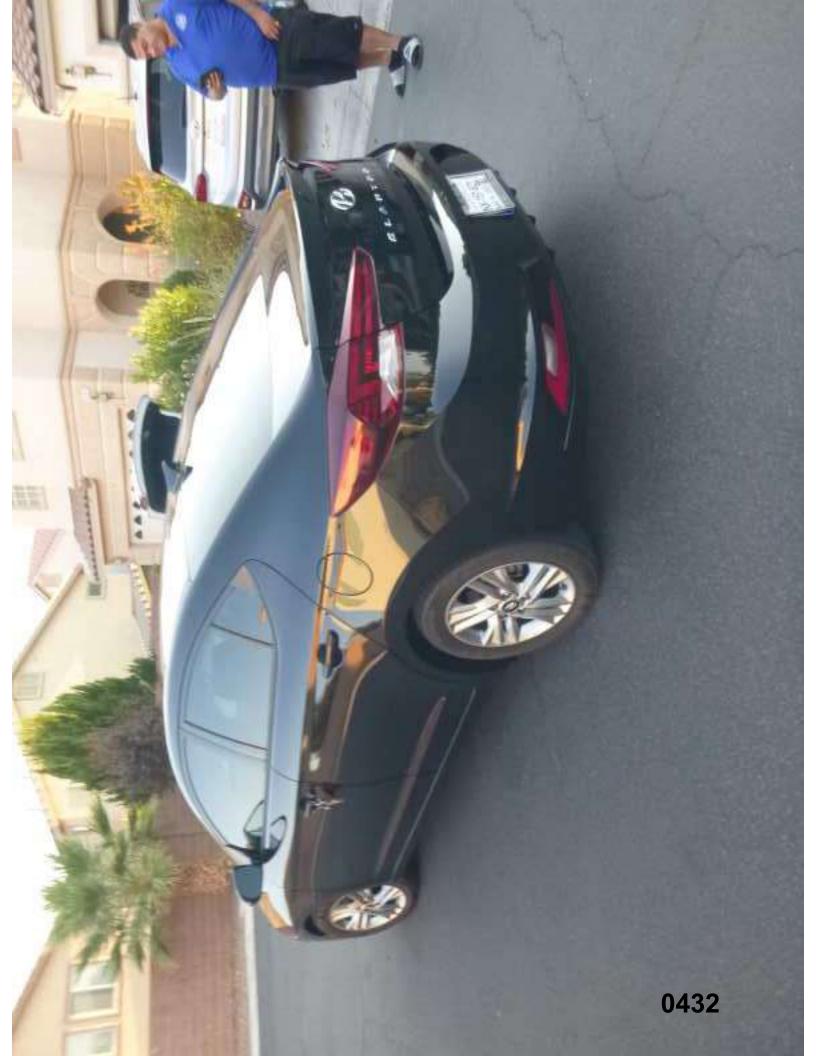
LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW



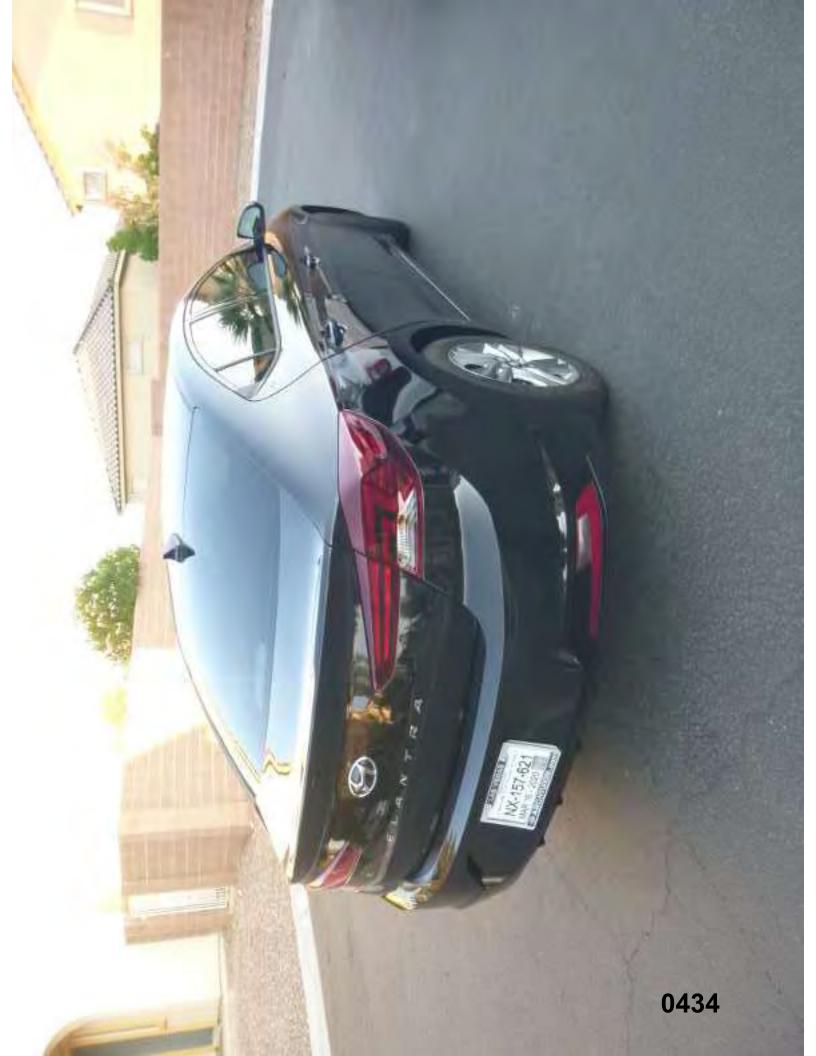


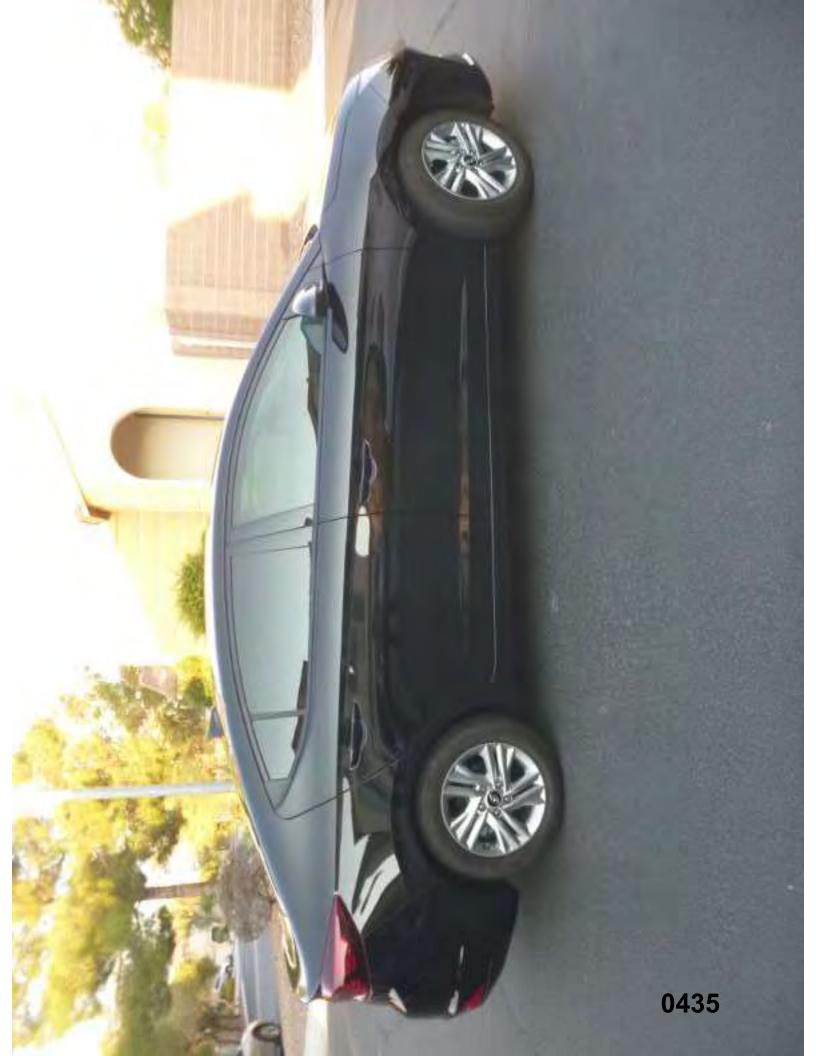


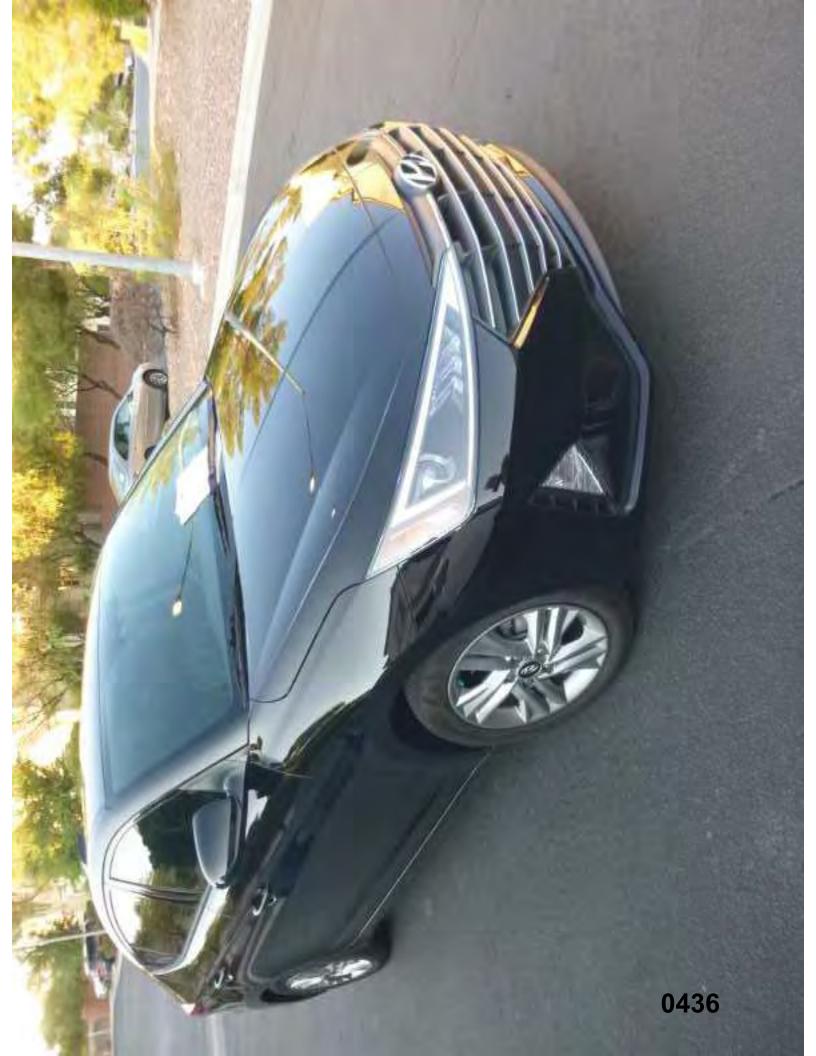


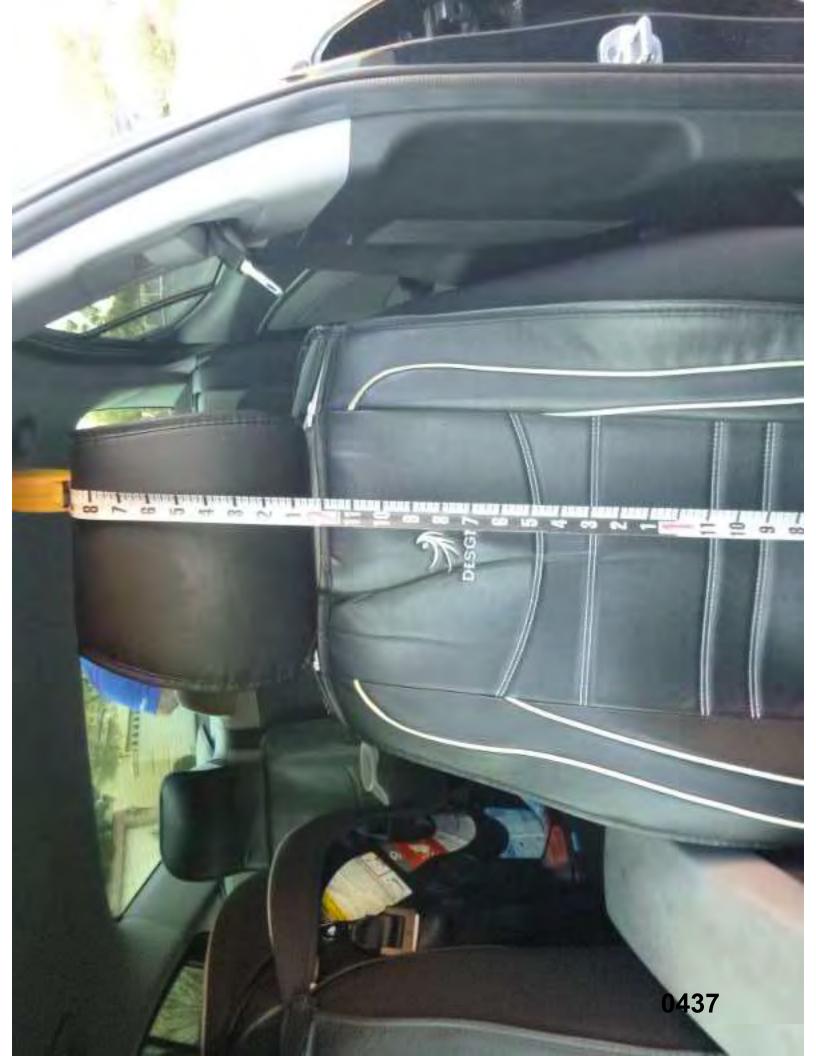




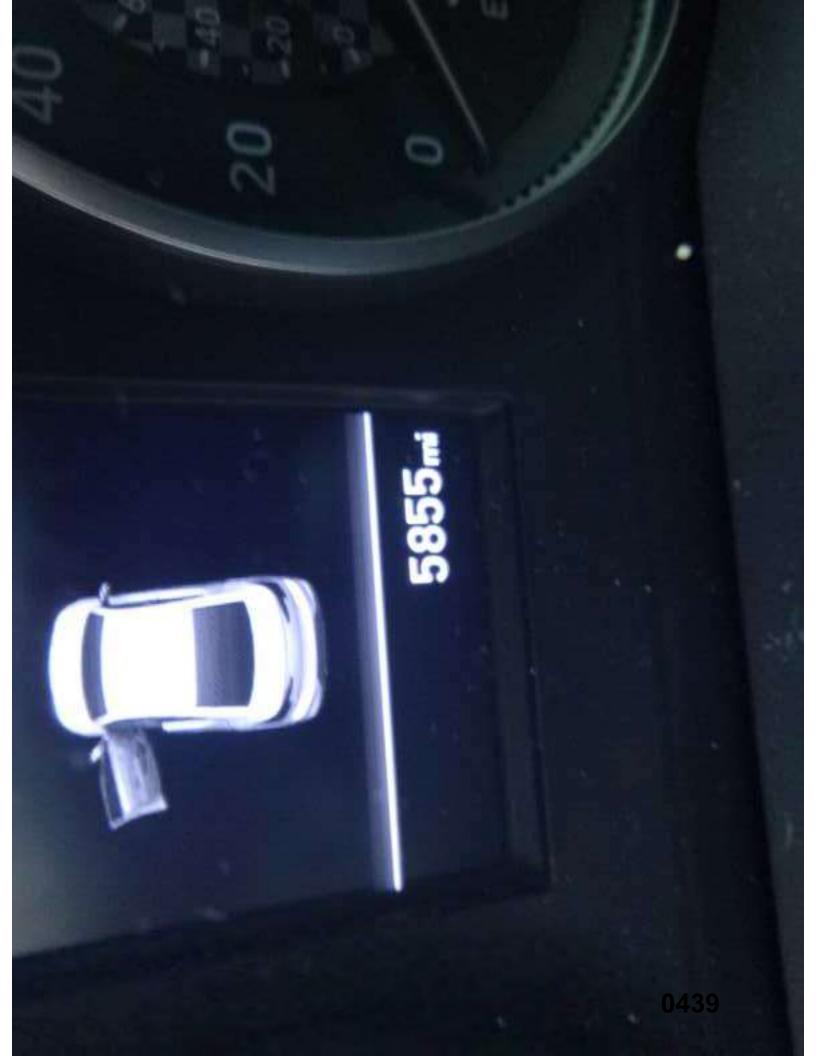






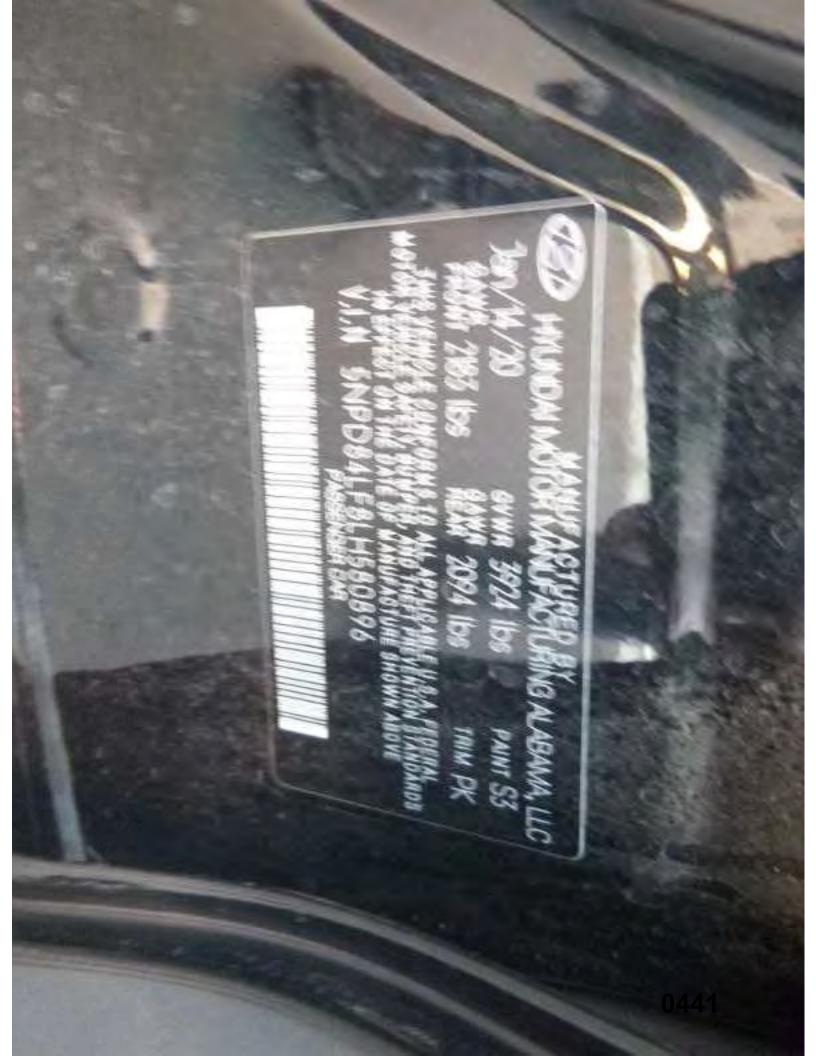


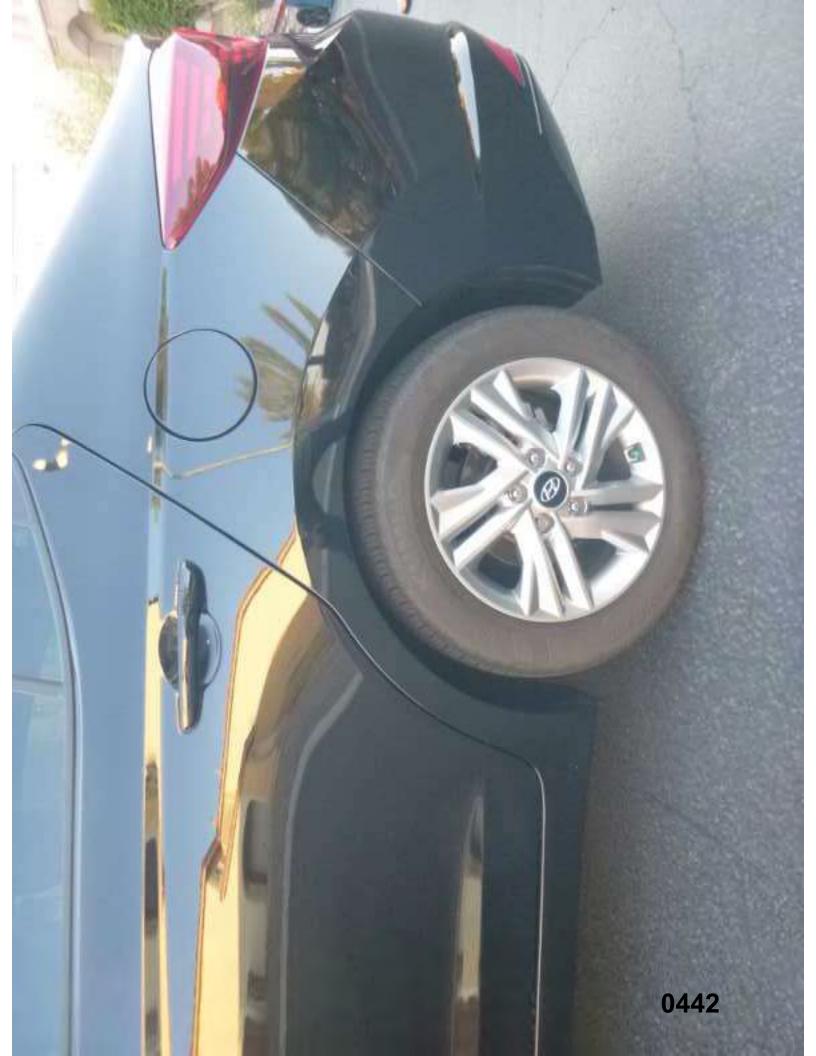


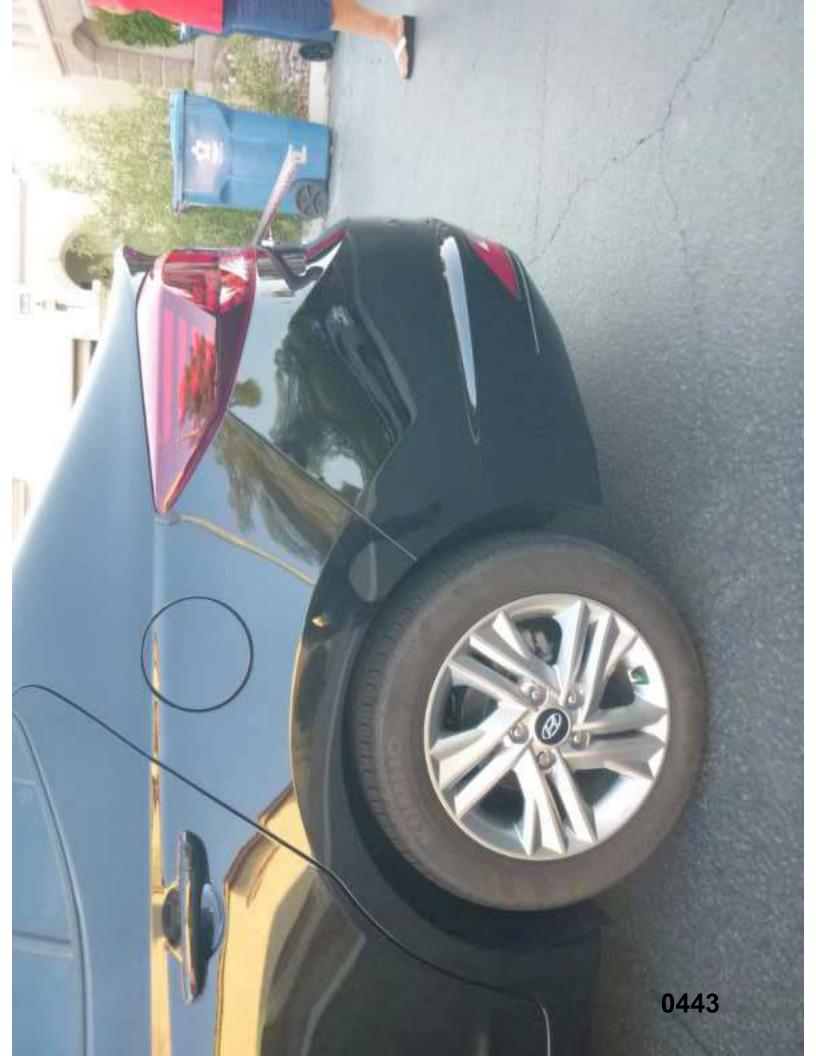


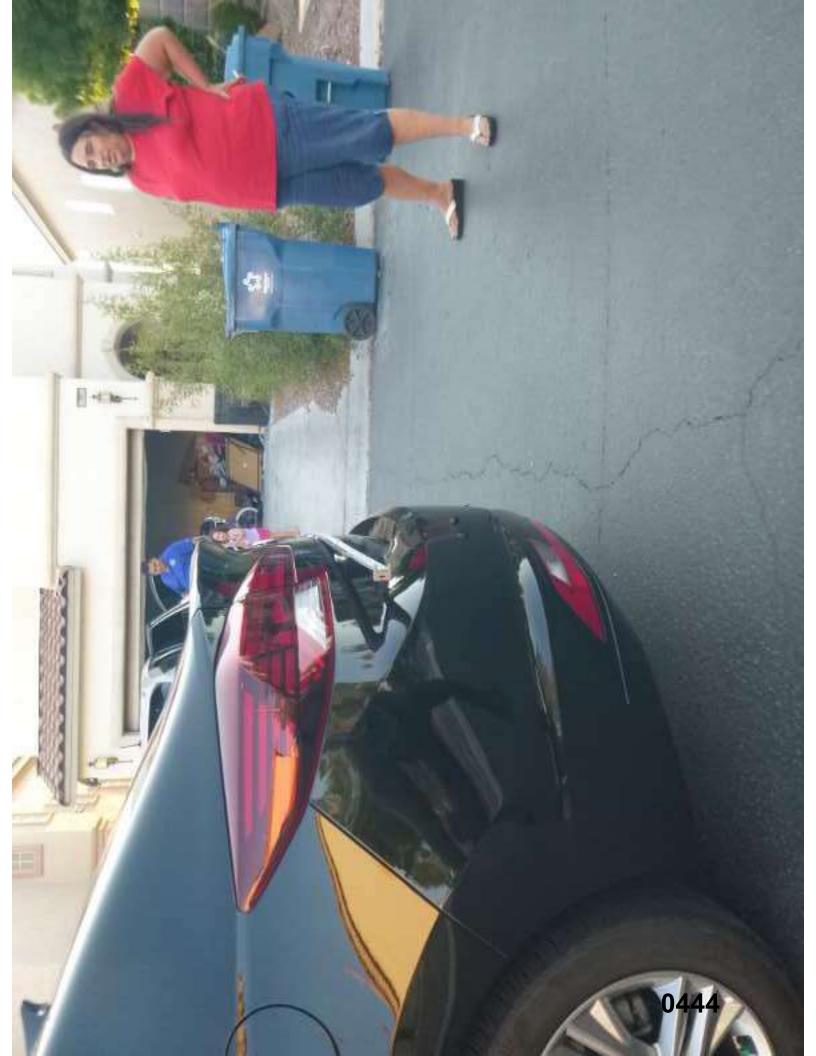
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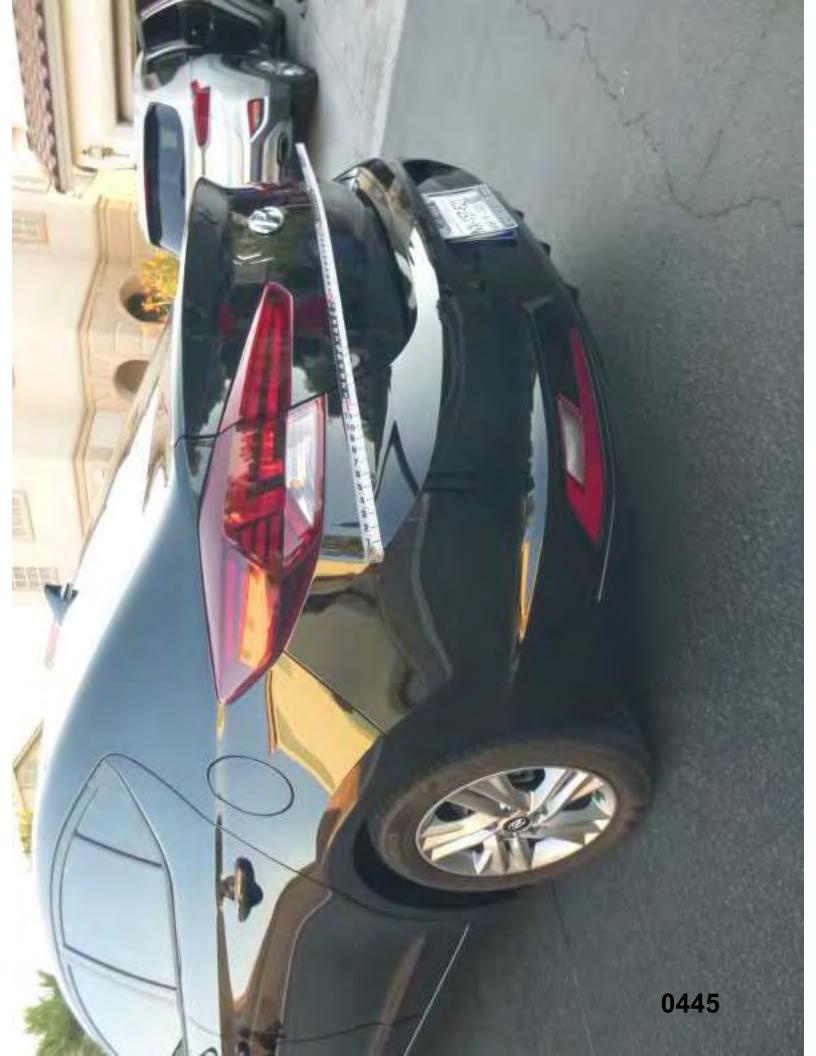
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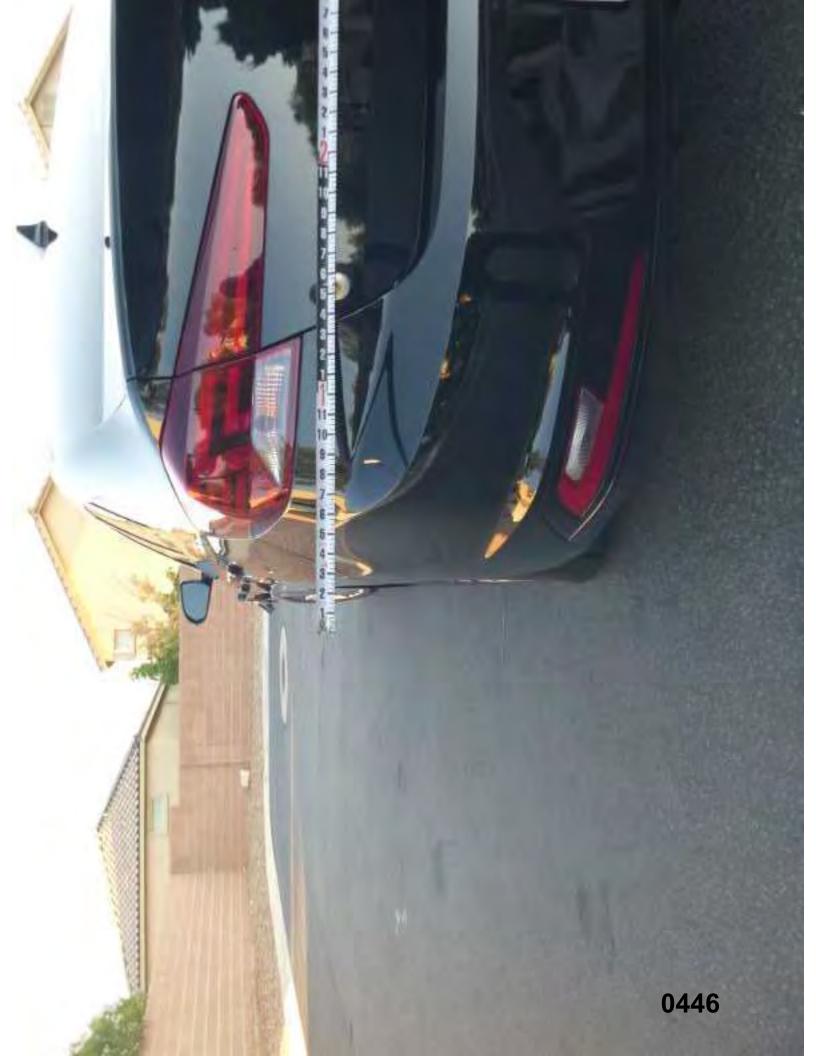


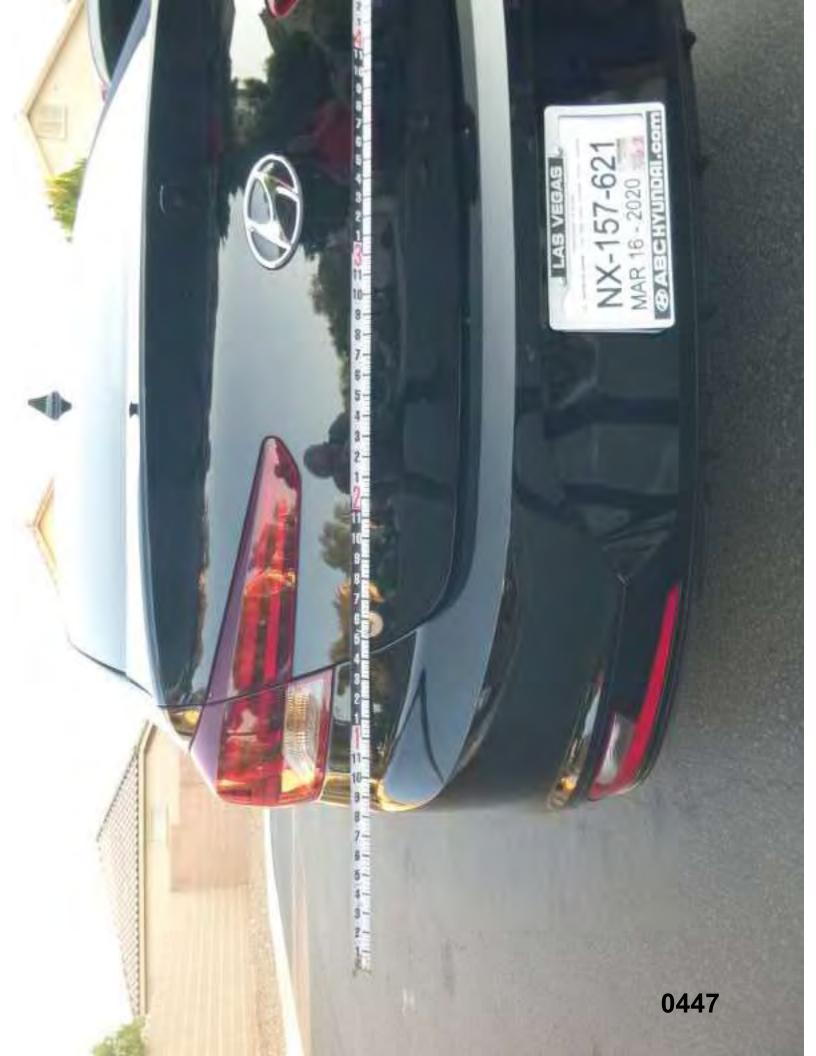




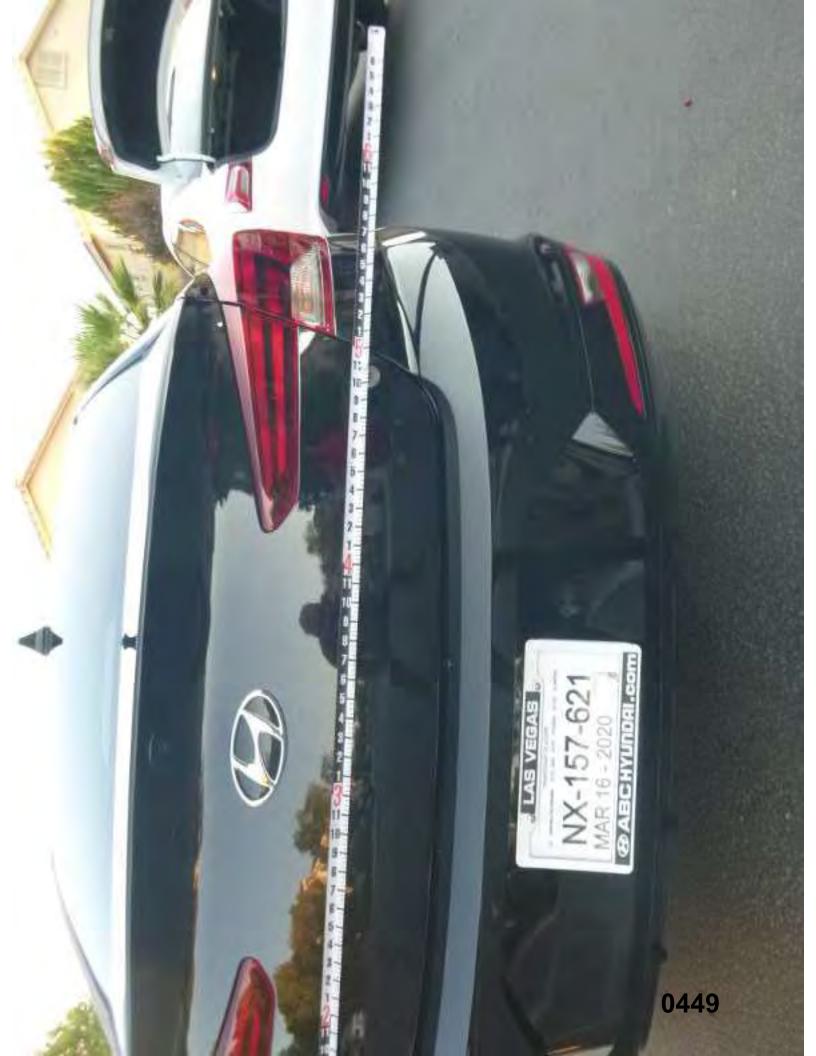






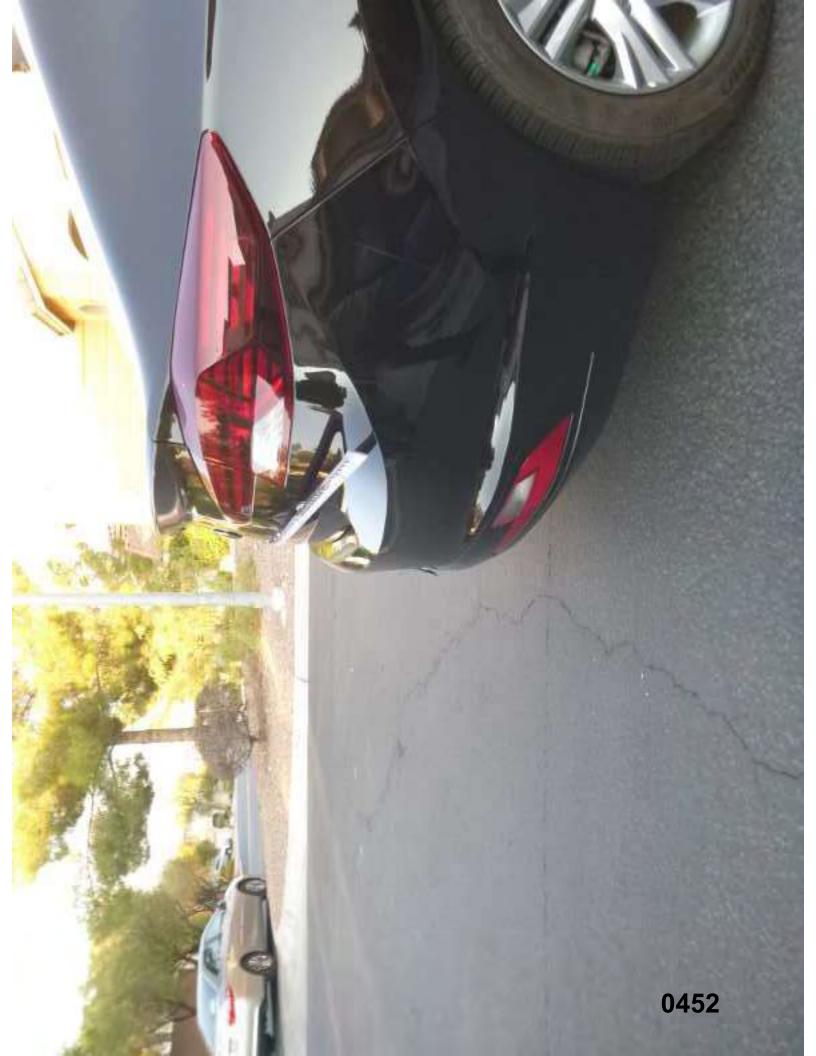


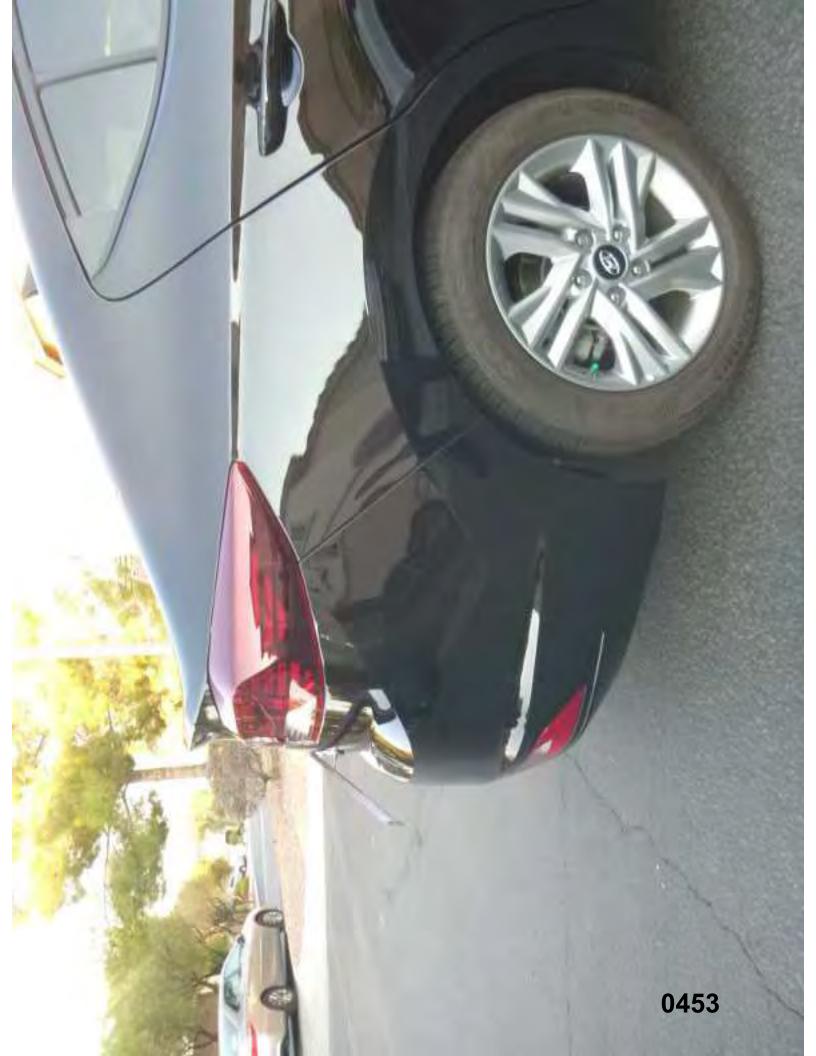




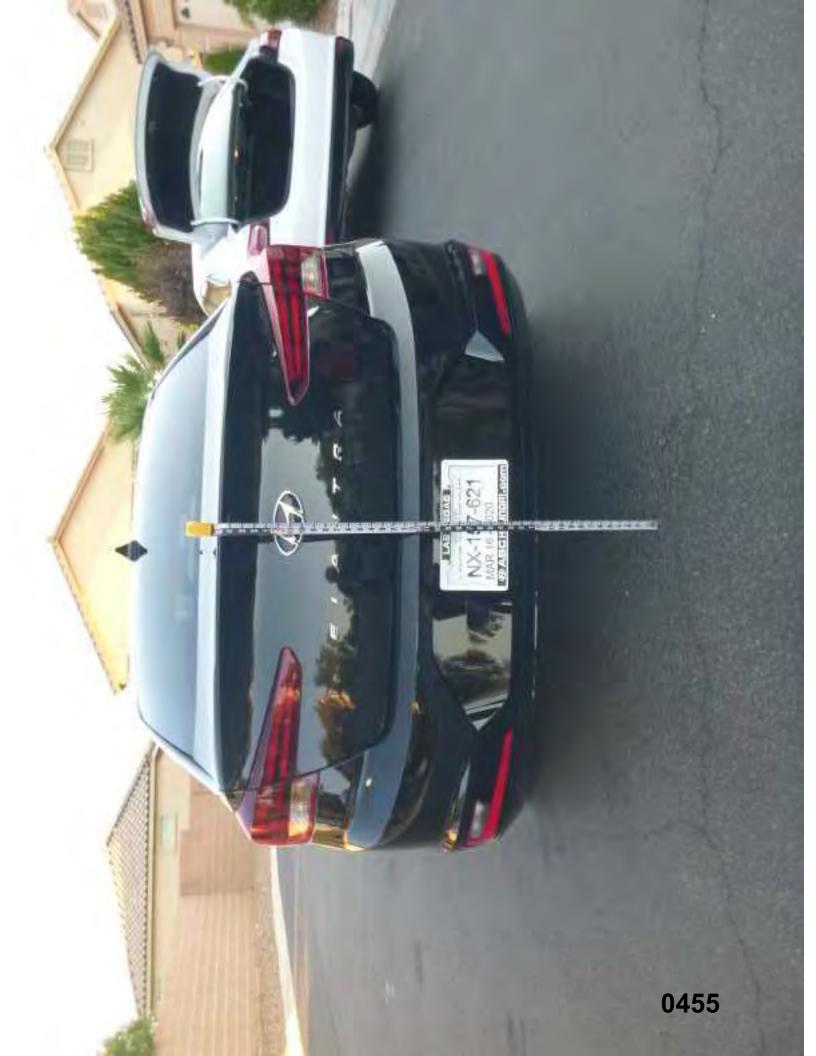














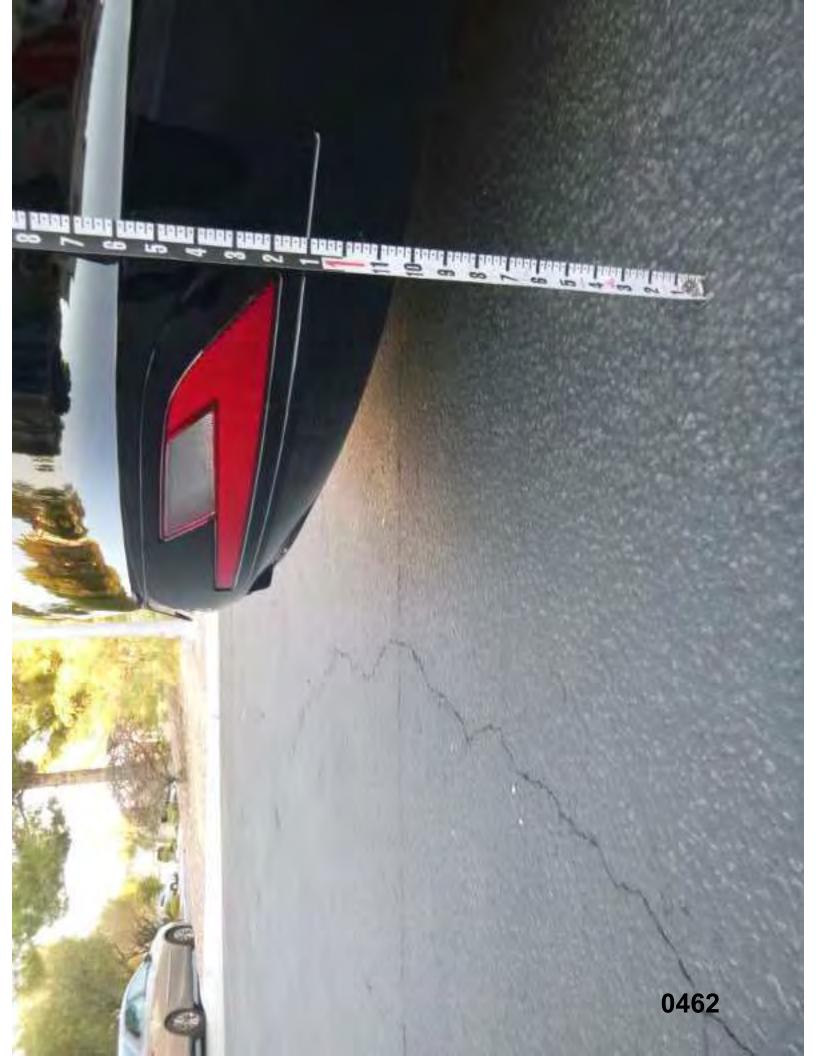




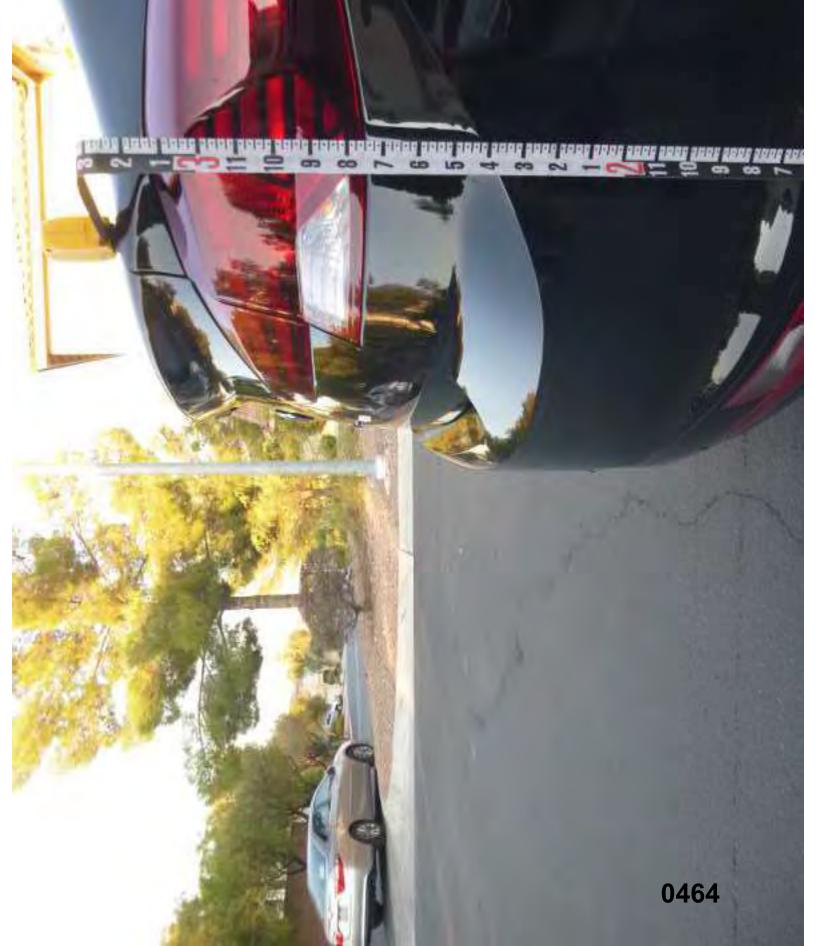


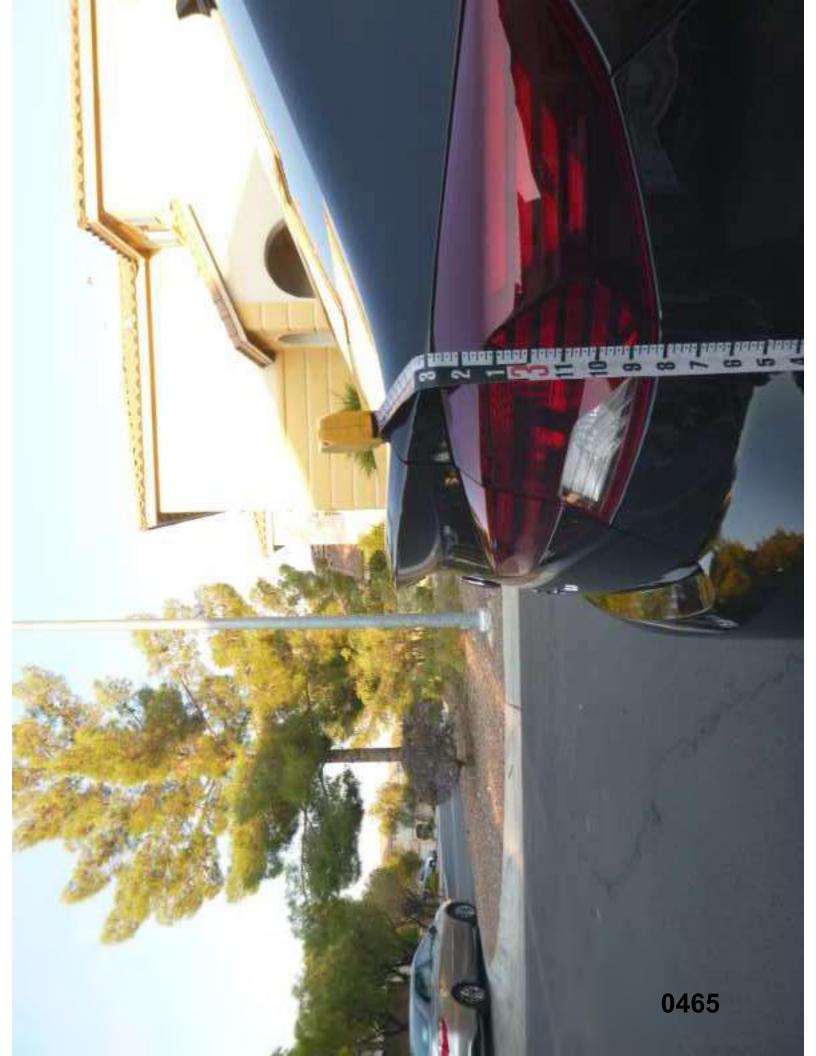






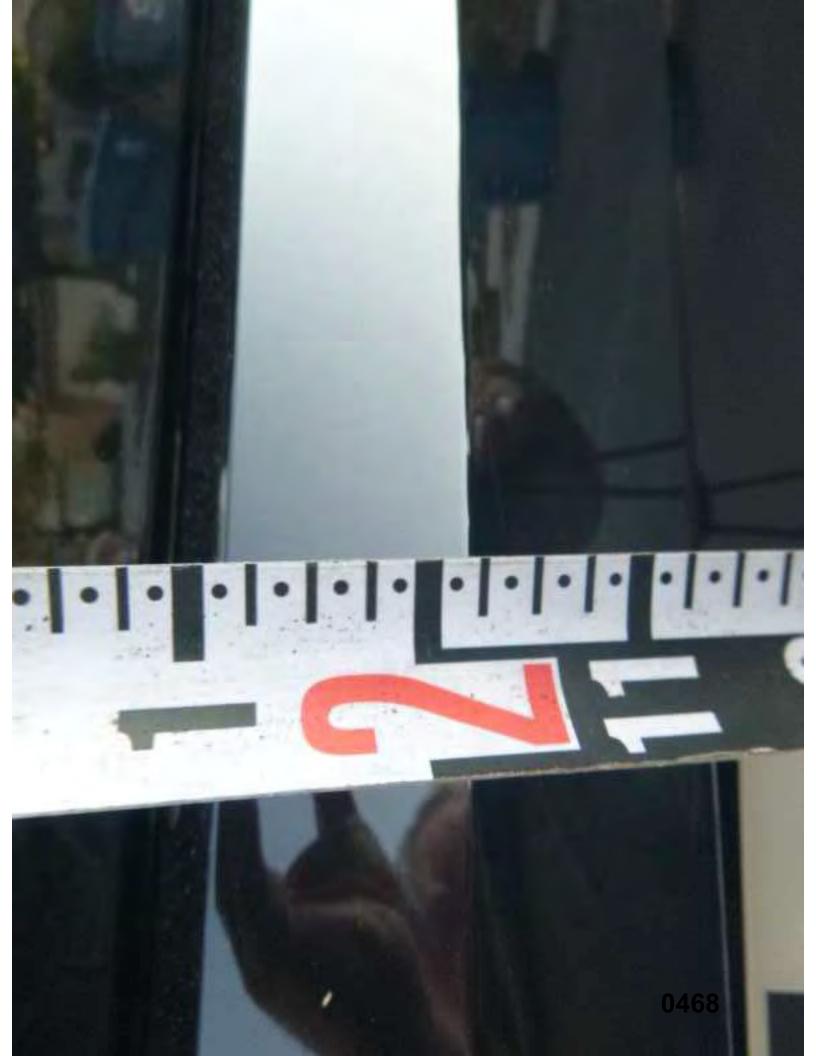


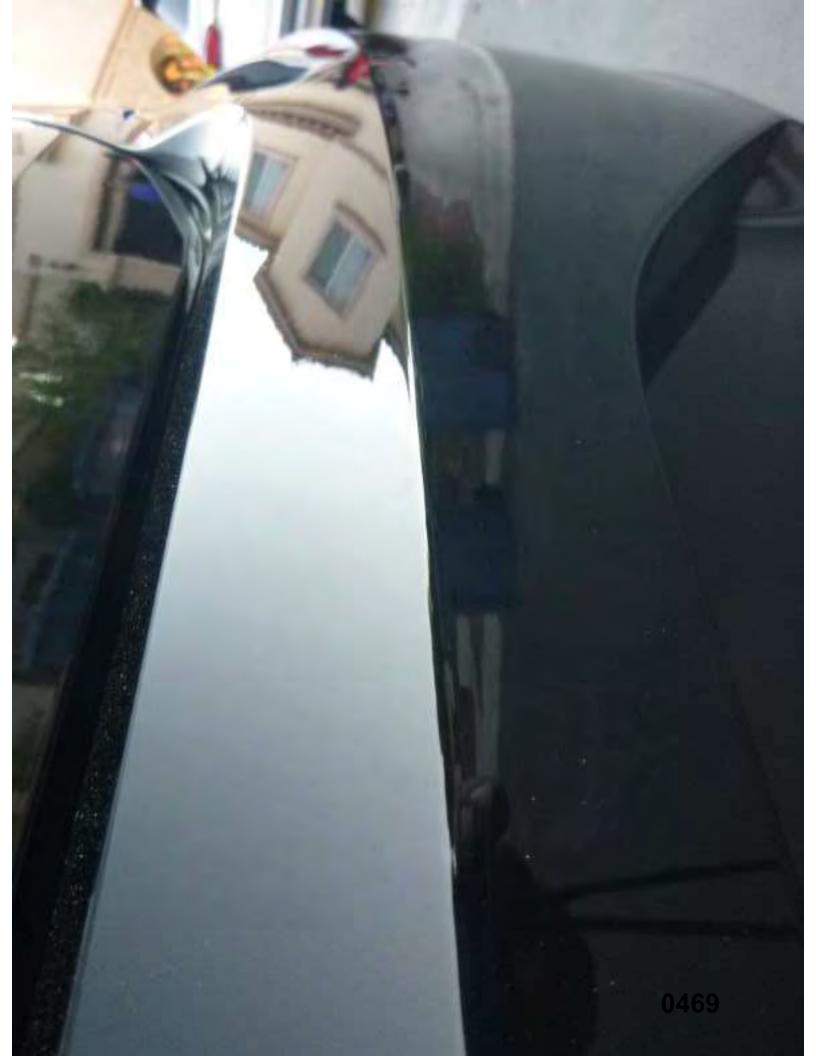








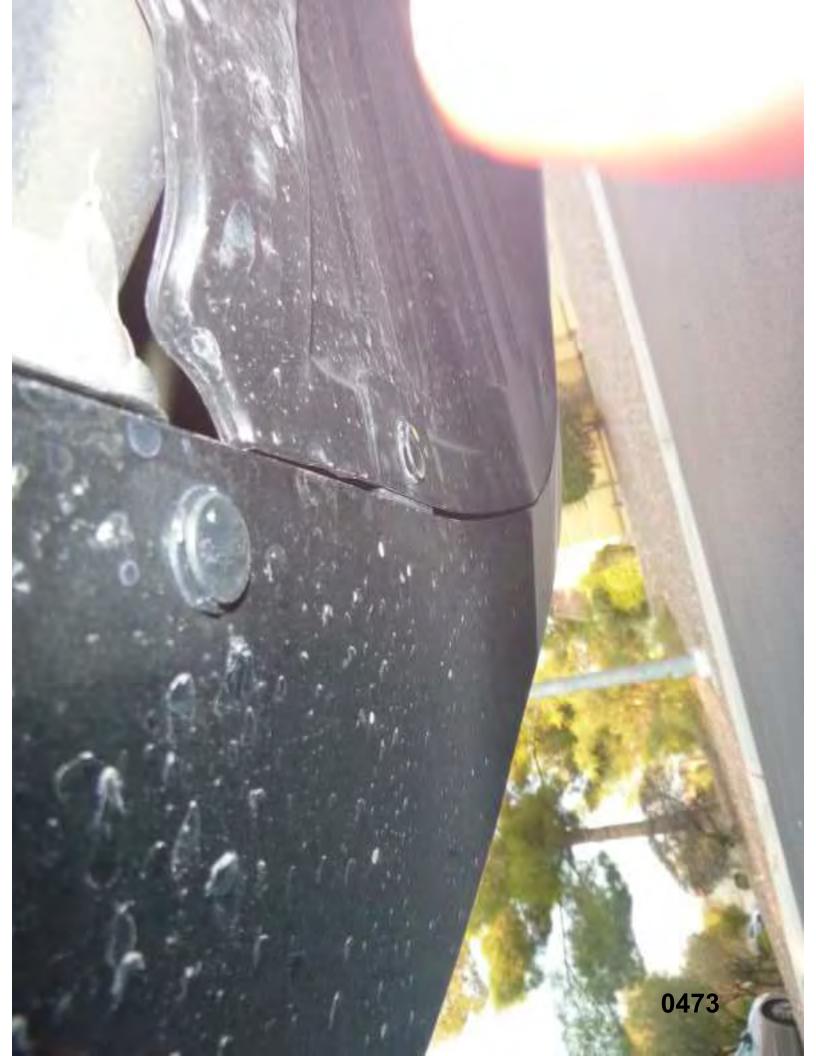


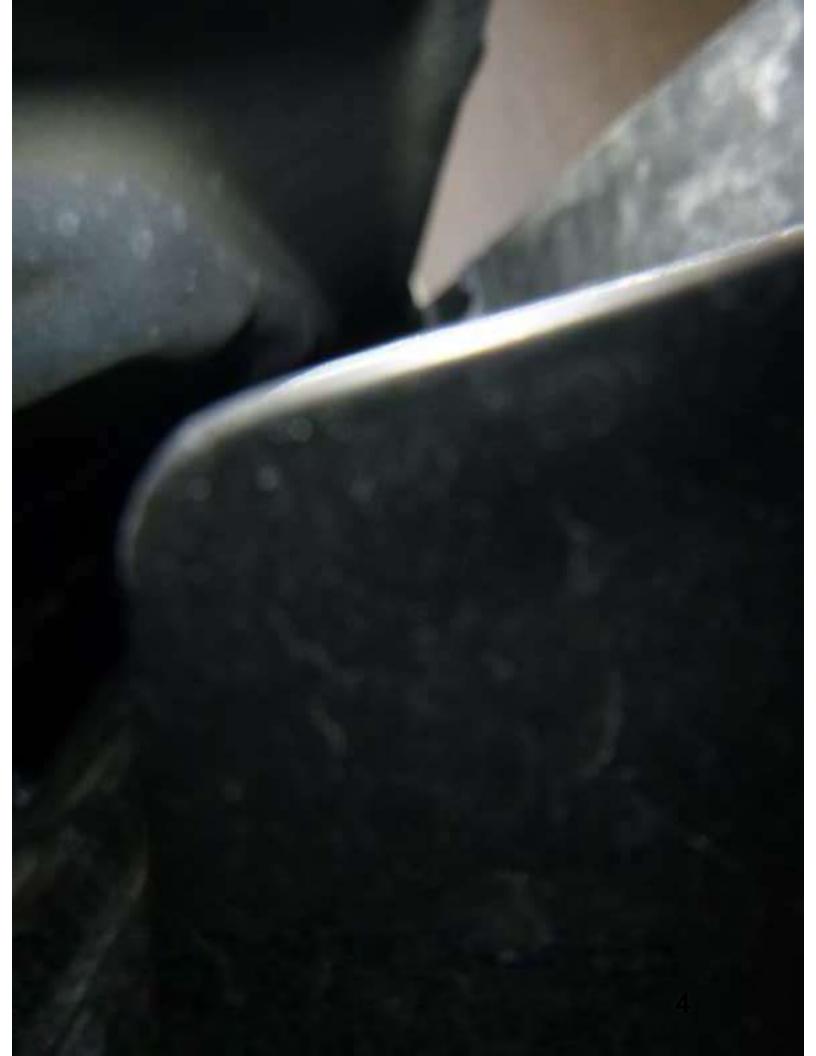




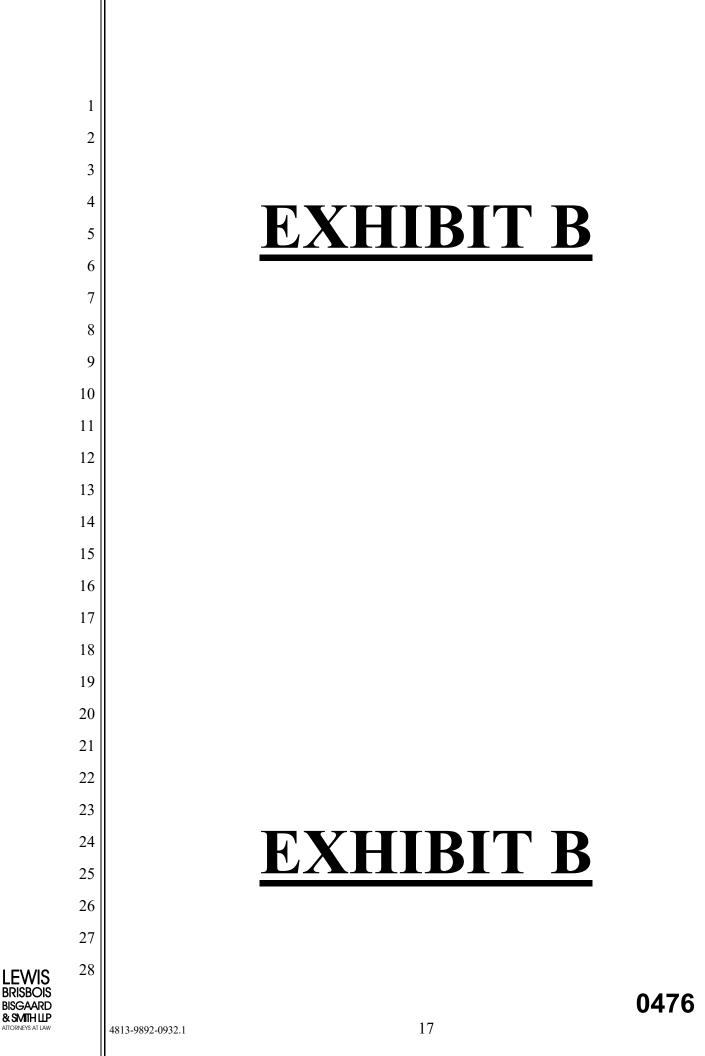




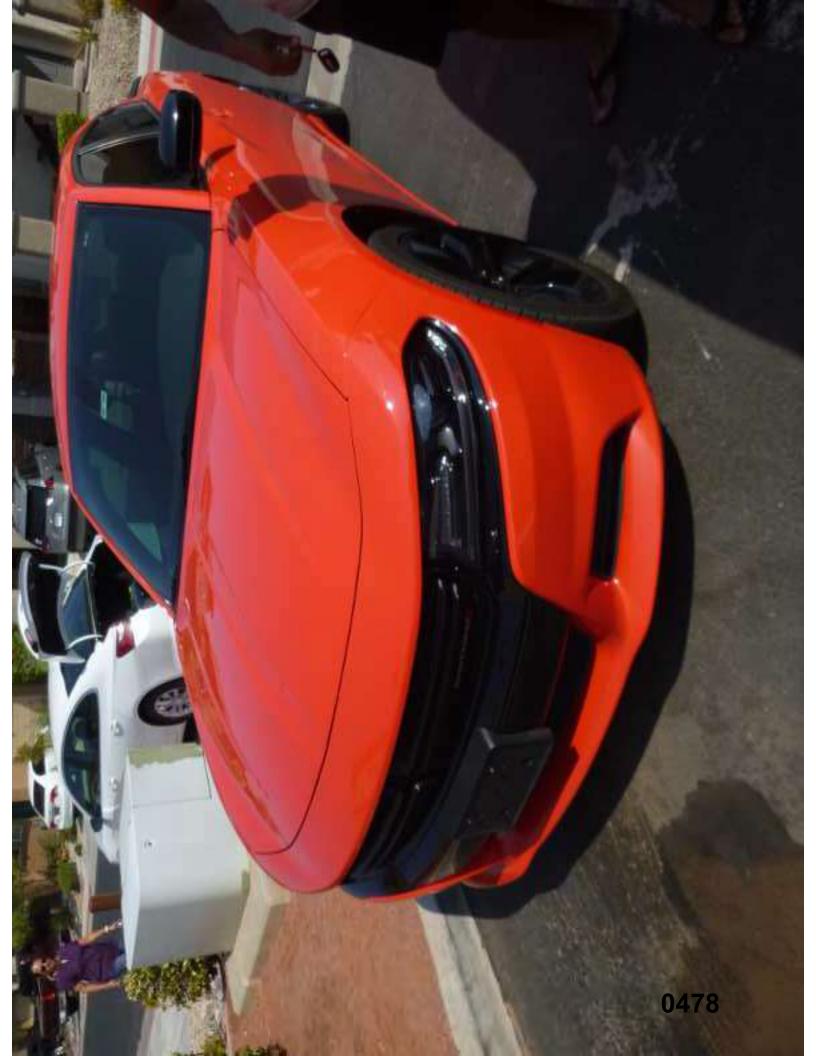




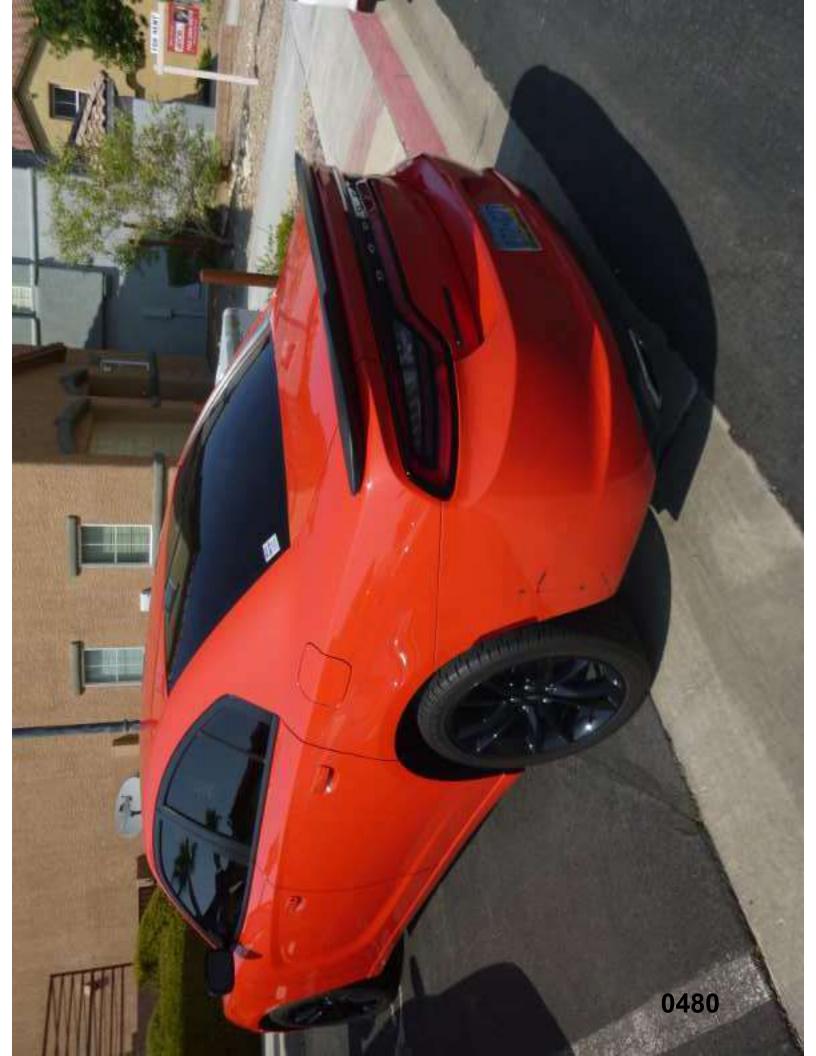


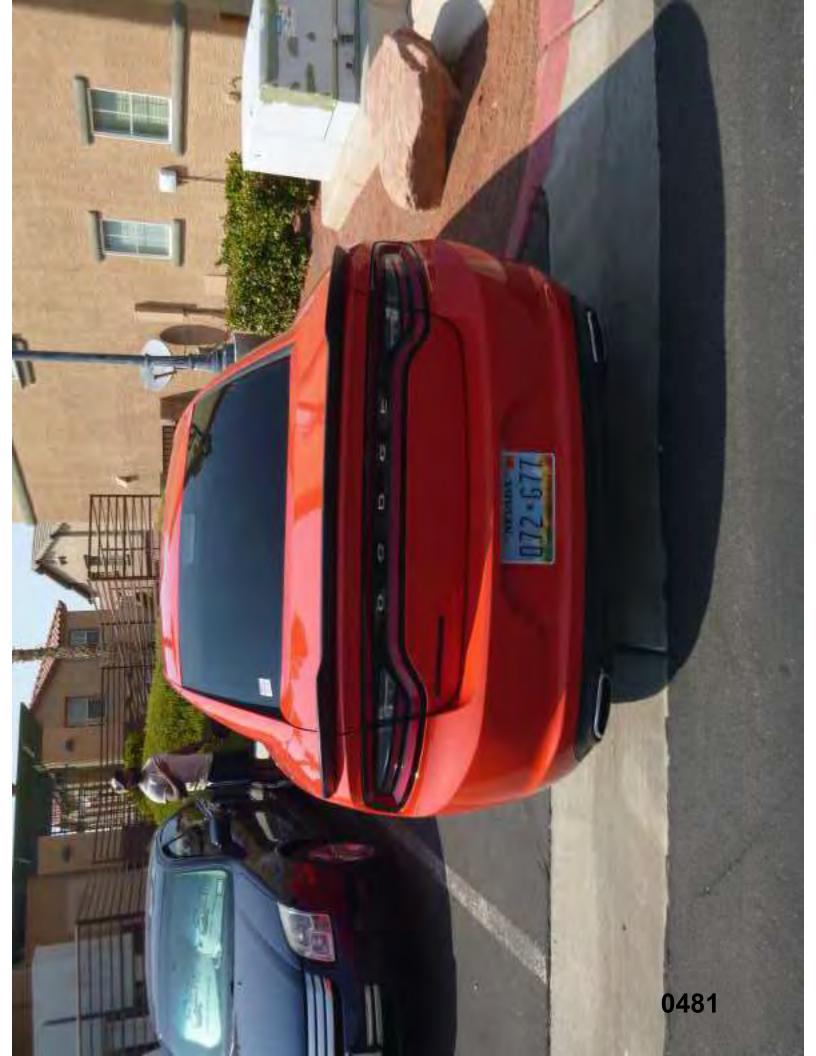


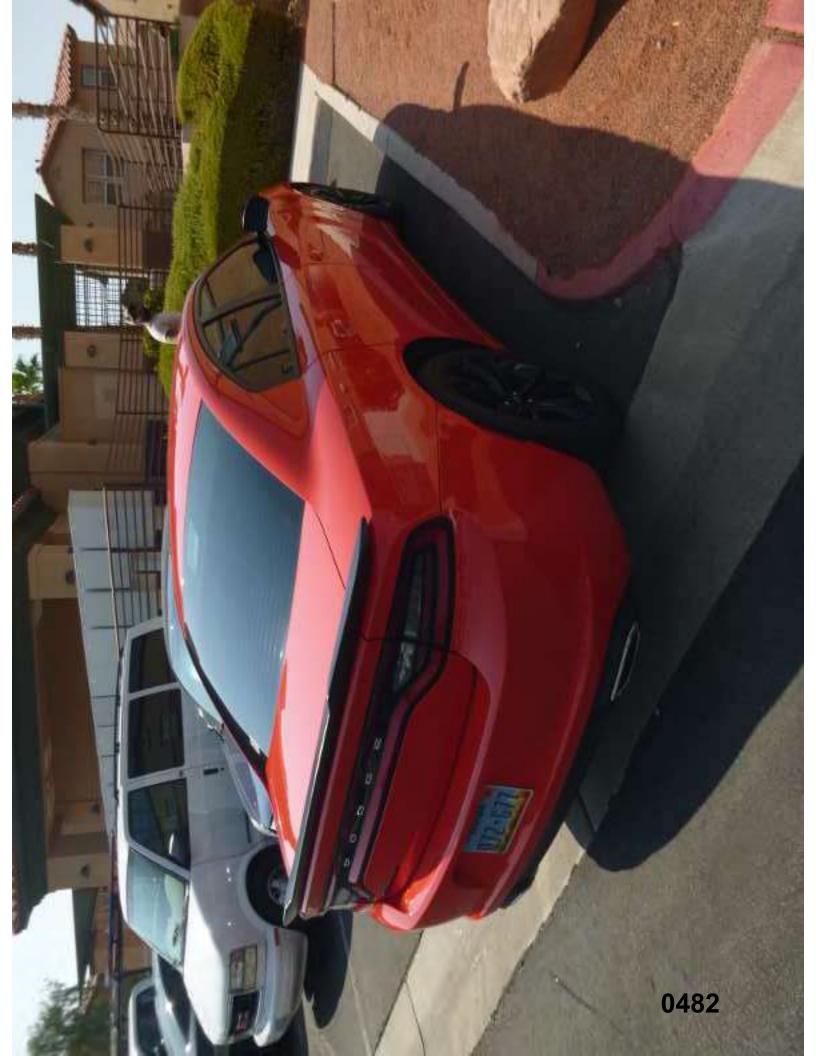




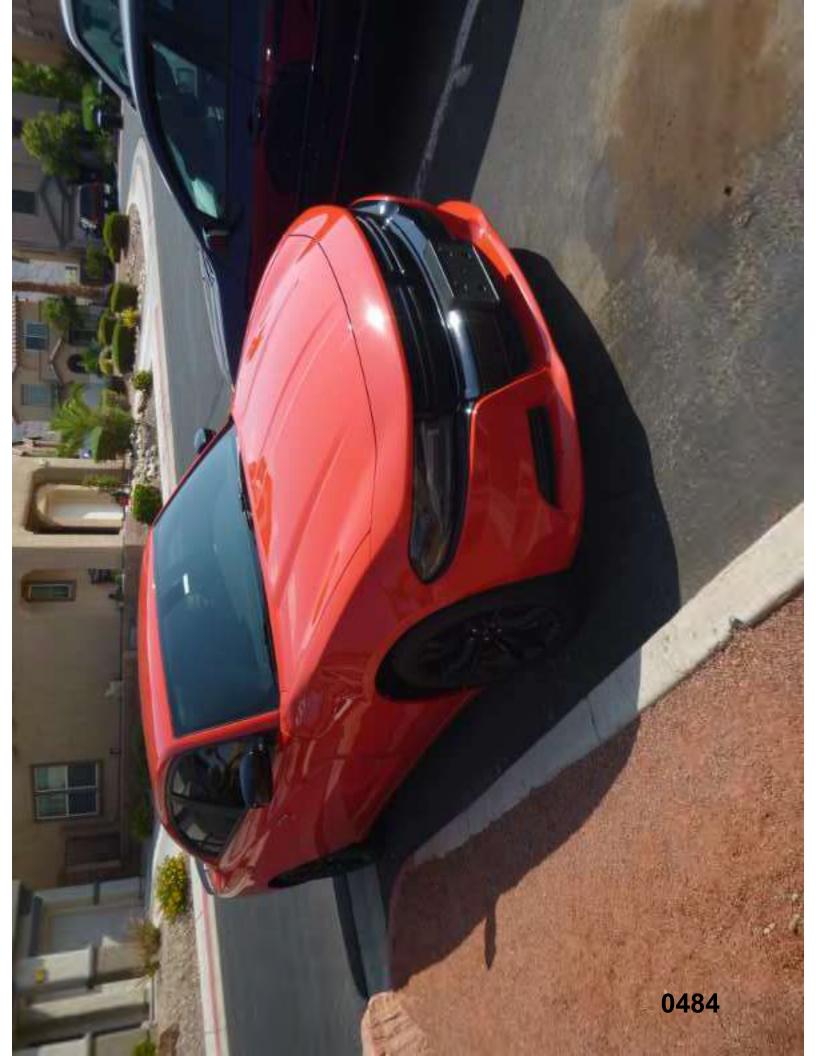




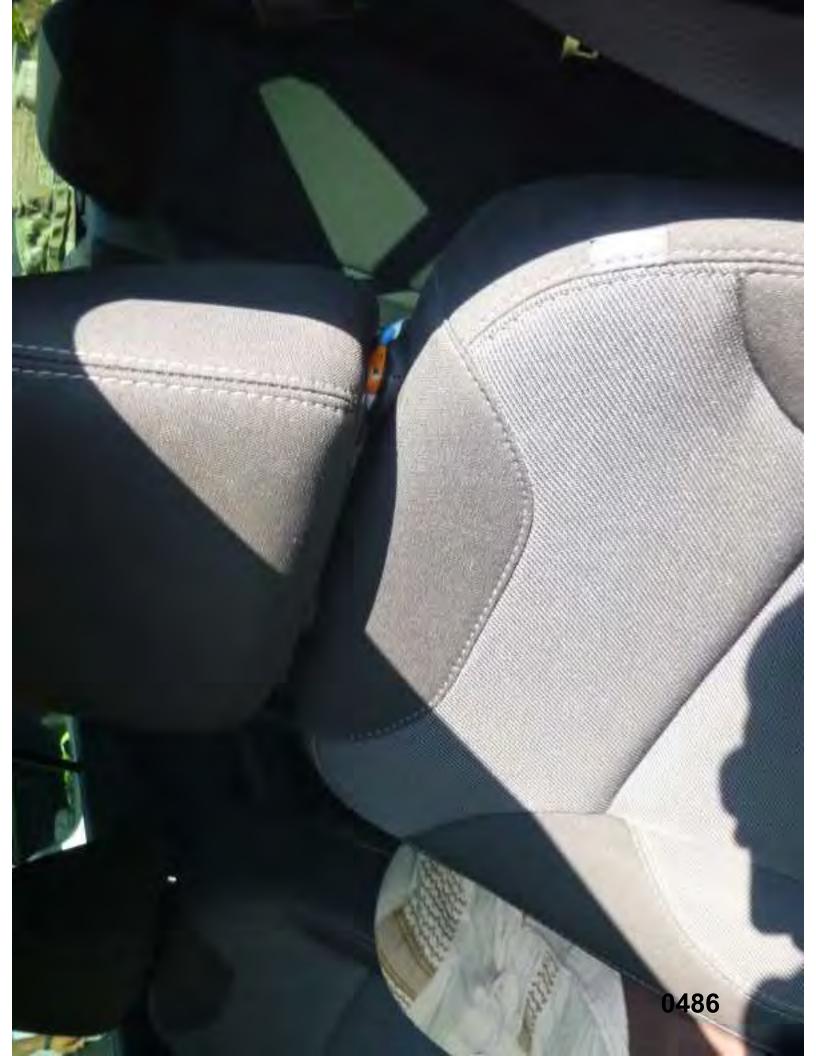




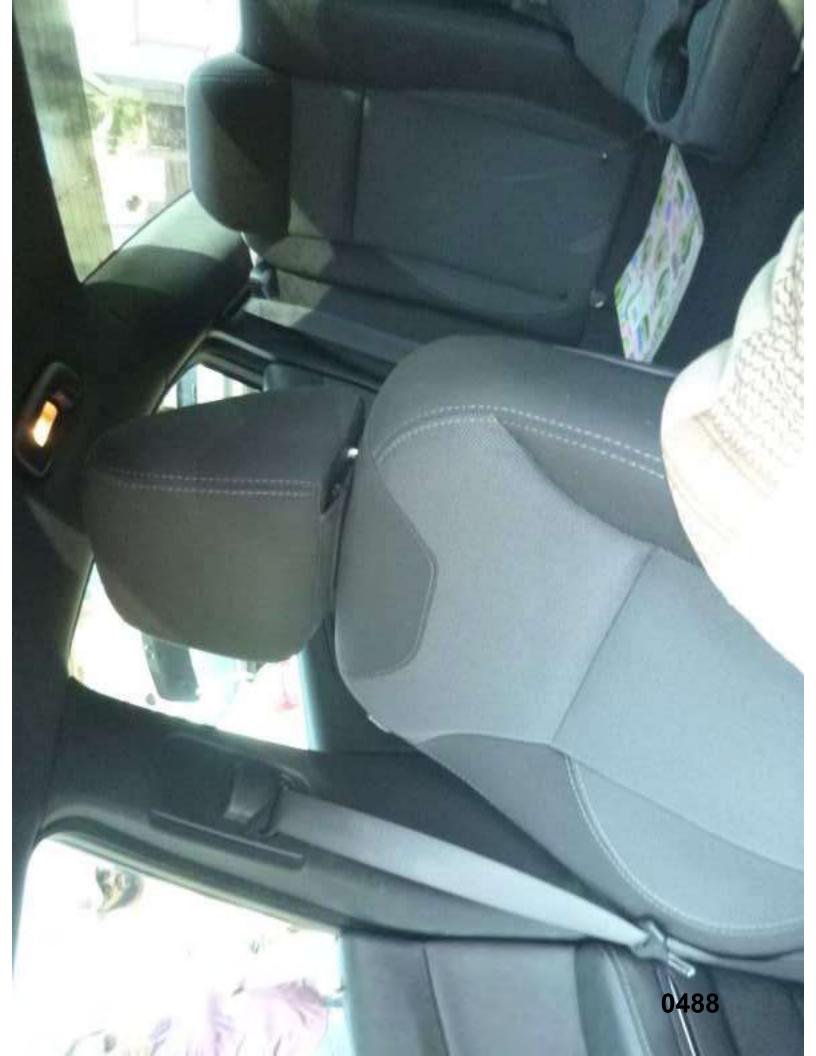




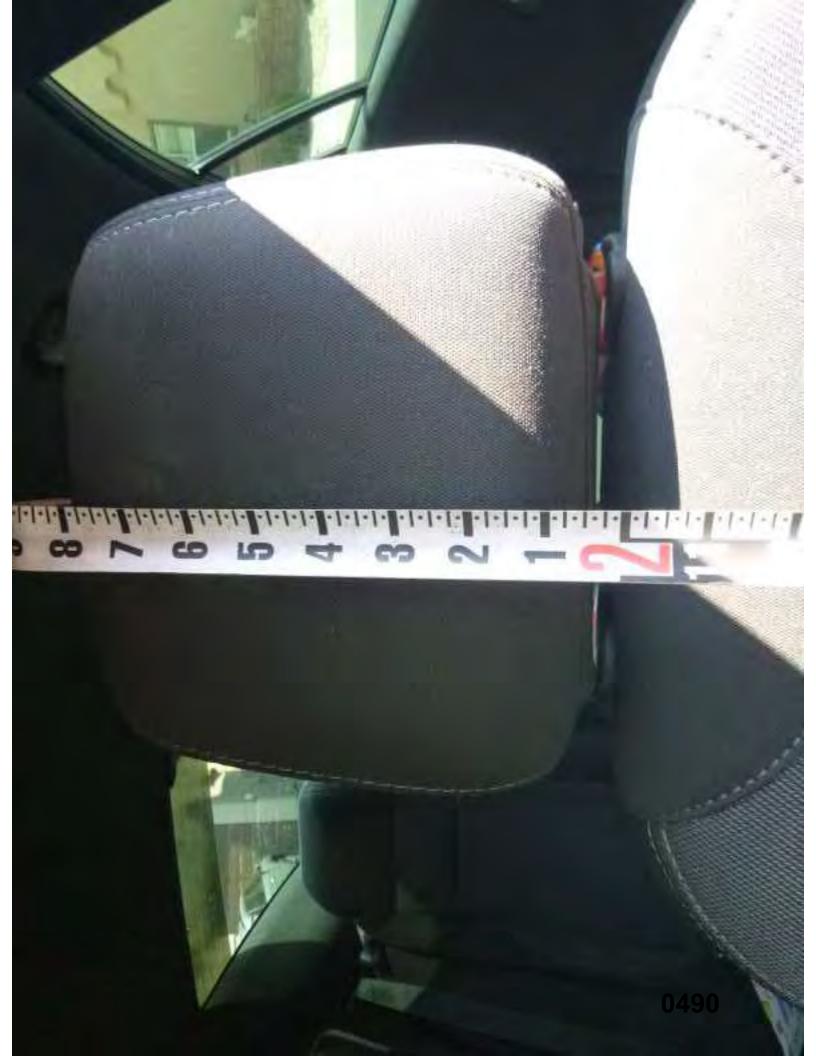












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