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A Magazine for the Professional Recovery Industry



June 18 - 21, 2019 Arizona Grand Resort Phoenix, Arizona www.repo19.com

CONVENTION INFORMATION INSIDE



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Jim Osselburn President, AFA

President's Message

Hello and welcome to Professional Repossessor Magazine. This complimentary magazine is provided by Allied Finance Adjusters Conference Inc.



I hope this finds everyone well,

I wanted to bring attention to our members and fellow repossessors that have been dealing with the crazy weather we have been having. Not only does this pose a risk for personal injury, but also the risk of insurance losses. These destructive storms have paralyzed many companies who have had to call off employees for safety reasons which will lead to a loss of income. Keep these companies in your thoughts and prayers.

The economy has taken several unusual turns this year, unemployment is down, and deficiency is at record levels. After speaking with an economist and trying to understand why this is, I was told that this is the result of underemployment. This means that many Americans have been taking jobs that they are overqualified or overeducated who carry high student loan balances.

After speaking with several members regarding their volume and success rate for the first quarter, I came to find out that many companies are busy with volume and on the low end for repossession. Most people I speak with suggest that this is an extended tax season, with auto delinquencies at one of its highest rates since 2008 I would expect the second quarter should come back strong.

If you are a professional repossession company owner and considering joining a national trade association, look no further. Some of the benefits of being a member of Allied Finance Adjusters are access to our on-staff attorney for legal advice, access to the \$1,000,000 crime policy at the lowest cost in the industry and two industry leading training events every year. Not to mention the magazine you are reading right now, thank you for your consideration and until next time stay safe.

James Osselburn, President



Mission Statement: The mission statement of Allied is as follows:

Allied Finance Adjusters Conference Inc. is a nonprofit national association of individuals who own and operate repossession companies. We are committed to the promotion of excellence within our profession. Allied does this by educating our members and those associated with the finance industry regarding innovations, changes and improvements that affect this trade and give them the opportunity to exchange knowledge, experience, and ideas in a collaborative environment.



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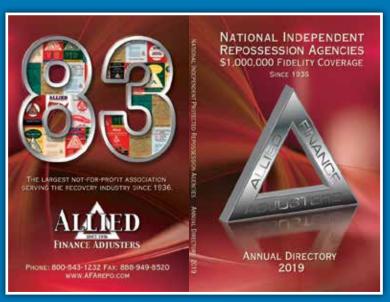
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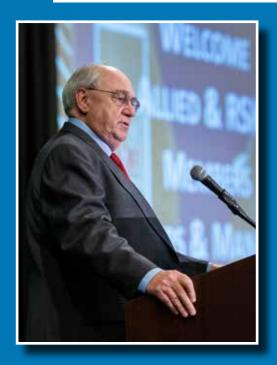




Join Recovery Specialist Insurance Group and Allied Finance Adjusters Conference Inc in Phoenix next June at REPO19!

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- Rethink the way you're currently doing business
- Engage other repossessors and lenders to network and brainstorm
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- Organize working together with fellow industry leaders



Mark your calendars now and save the date,

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Certification and take in everything these two
groups have to offer! Register today!



Letters to the Editor

FEAR AND LOATHING



Fear and Loathing are letters and ideas submitted to PRM. It will be a combination of quotes from submitted member letters/rants along with analogous situations and pertinent business logic and how we can apply it to our daily operations. So if you're feeling frustrated with the daily grind of the Biz and want to vent, send in your letters. We prefer you do it by identifying yourself, but if you choose to remain anonymous, we will respect that and deal with it accordingly. If you have an article you want to have reviewed in whole for publication, please submit it to pastpresident@alliedfinanceadjusters.com.

SPRING CLEANING

"Spring Cleaning the house is easy, spring cleaning the life is tough."

~ Anonymous

With the cold winter weather nearly behind us we look forward to the warmer weather that spring brings us. Another season is ending and another is beginning. Before you know it, summer is knocking on our door. Traditionally, spring has been a time to clean the house and for some, the garage too. Metaphorically speaking, spring cleaning can be applied to cleaning our lives as well. The first part of spring cleaning usually involves opening up the house, letting in the fresh air, sweeping out the dust, dirt and cat hair from the long winter. Easy right? The second step is to start to look around at some of the clutter that has accumulated, items that may no longer be useful, and consider getting rid of a few things. Not so easy! I find this part difficult to start but once I get going, it gets easier. In the end, I feel better about doing it. Couldn't the same principle of "spring

cleaning" be applied to our business? How many of us take the time to spring clean our business? Dusting off our old business practices and getting rid of things that may no longer be useful. We, as business owners, can become creatures of habit. But we can't afford to continue to do things the way we've always done them just simply because "that's the way we've always done it". So, take a step back, take a look around. Have you accumulated clutter (old business practices that no longer serve you or your customers)? Is it time to sweep out that old dust and let in some fresh ideas into your business? Pick up that broom, swing open those windows and get to cleaning! Be sure to share your spring-cleaning tips with your fellow Allied members the next time you meet!



2019 PAR AGENT PARTNER EVENT

By Marcelle Egley

I attended Par's Agent Partner Event last week. A huge shout-out to PAR's president Lisa Scott and her team. Lisa supported her agents and their use of RDN. In the near future all of PAR's assignments will be in RDN. We the agent won't have to use iRepo for PAR accounts any longer when announced.

Another step an agent has to take isn't helping avoid wrongful repossessions. Humans still have to close and or place the repossession on hold. An app, portal, etc... won't help the human take action. Another step for agents in the field adds to the many operating systems, portals, not to mention the cameras, receiving and sending E-mails. If you have gone out in the field or haven't in a long time, do yourself a favor and try to accomplish what your agents do for you in the field. Not to mention their first priority of staying safe, not damaging the repossession if in a truck, not damaging other vehicles, property and watching out for pedestrians, etc.

Back to PAR's event and its success. PAR truly values our partnership. PAR realizes we need each other. Agents may not like the forwarders. We need to learn to co-exist. Making the marriage work is key. We are a team like it or not. Learning to accept and adapt will lead to positive results.



Marcelle Egley ABA Recovery Service San Diego, CA CALR President

It means so much to agents knowing that forwarders have our back and we have theirs. This goes a long way in building your relationship and trust with each other.

Moving forward, agents and forwarders need to have one voice and common interest at heart with our clients. PAR represents this common interest and clearly showed their agents they care at their event. The breakout with Clearplan/RDN and PAR's transportation team were exceptional. Everyone was open to praise, constructive criticism and new ideas. Open mind and no judgement was cast. So positive and refreshing! A great combination for continued success.

The bowling and games were a lot of fun. It was a comfortable setting everyone enjoyed.

The Indy races were an experience most people don't get to experience in a life time. This was my first visit to the state and their track. To top it all off, Pippa Mann came to PAR's RABF Fundraiser. Pippa is the British female race-car driver. She signed Indy race pictures to be auctioned off, took photos with all of the attendees and was truly instrumental in raising money for RABF. Lisa Scott was our auctioneer. She is the best and fastest lady auctioneer I have seen. Jeremy Turner PAR's Senior Vendor Manager helped with the auction as well. Lisa has been training Jeremy. Looking for Jeremy to be our auctioneer next year. Go Jeremy!





Jeanne Lewis Pratt Adjustment Bureau Denver, CO



NOTHING STAYS THE SAME...

and the repossession business has changed dramatically since I started way back in 1997. We all used to work directly with the lien holders, be able to charge for skip tracing, mileage, storage, time and so much more and it was profitable. And now there are the rising costs for insurance, leases, fuel, tow trucks and wages. Now that the forwarders have taken the lion's share of the direct clients we have lost the lion's share of revenue too.

I encourage every repossession company to diversify. As I read social media posts about repossession companies doing towing and private property impounds, I don't see much about locksmithing. Think about it....these cars that are already on your lots will need keys...and you can make them and add a new revenue stream.

Locksmithing is not easy, but if I can do it so can you!!! I have basically been a codesmith for the last 15 years. Now I have challenged myself to learn something new...how to make the key without the code from NASTF or a key code broker.

First I bought some Lishi tools and watched all the youtube.com videos with rare but occasional success. There is no substitute for hands on training. So Viva Las Vegas and the justcars.us event. Wow! There were lots of booths and vendors and a lot of classes to attend. I took a basic locksmithing course which my ego said I did not need, but my brain said take it anyway...and I learned so, so much. Thank you to my instructor Stephen Hoffman, CAL of Pop-A-Lock of Northern Colorado. Speaking of Colorado....due to a "blizzard" my flight was canceled, then again, so when I finally got there I had already missed the Lishi hands on training class where you learn how to unlock and decode automotive locks and get the cuts from the door and use software to fill in the cuts that are not in the door but are in the ignition....Fortunately many of the vendors had Lishi vises set up with lock cylinders at their booths and Lishi tools there to play with and gave me hands on instruction and boy was that fun. And now I can use those tools for real!!! Still need lots of practice to get better and faster but there is so much satisfaction of actually picking and decoding a lock cylinder. (uh oh I just heard that in my head....I REALLY need to get out more often).

Continued on next page





NOTHING STAYS THE SAME...CONTINUED

Local resources are also fantastic opportunities for education. In Colorado there is the Central & Southern Locksmith Association (CSCLA) and the Rocky Mountain Locksmith Association (RMLA). CSCLA put on a Automotive and Motorcycle class taught by Ed Woods, CML, CPS, CAL. It was two full days of education and worth it. It was a combination of lecture and hands on training. We learned about information resources like the Foreign and Domestic vehicle AutoSmart books, Fast Facts, The Transponder book and more. We learned about Lishi tools and Accureaders as well as ignition removal tools (IRT's). We also got to assemble locks from scratch. My brain hurt by day two but I learned so much. I have used the Lishi tools successfully and the an IRT out in the real world!!! Plus there was networking with all the local locksmiths which is how I found out about RMLA. I also attended a meeting of the RMLA and those guys are great and I have submitted my application for membership. It is a great way get education and make new friends.

Nothing stays the same....and those who adapt to change survive.

Thank you for reading all the way to the end. Jeanne Lewis











If you have an article you want to have reviewed in whole for publication, please submit it to pastpresident@alliedfinanceadjusters.com.



Allied supports State Associations

Illinois Recovery Association (IRA)

The Illinois Recovery Association has been servicing the recovery agencies in Illinois since 2002. "The Road Ahead Starts Here"

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Jon Jendral-President



Carolina Finance Adjusters (CFA)

The Carolina Finance Adjusters Association(CFA) has accepted your request to bring together all who are involved in the business of recovering collateral for the lending industry in South Carolina. Our mission is to bring together recovery agents and their clientele, appropriate government agencies and regulatory authorities in hopes of improving the professionalism of collateral repossession as an honorable profession and to improve the image of those who work within the industry.

Become a CFA Supporter or Member Today!

For more information www.carolinafinanceadjusters.org or call (843) 760-0520

Scott Chambers - President

Florida Association of Repossessors

Florida Association of Repossessors is a newly formed group supported by AFA and a meeting is being put together to pick board members and establish rules and or Bylaws. Web site is; http://www.flarepo.org/. For information visit our website or Contact Allied Finance Adjusters at 1-800-843-1232.



Michigan Association of Repossession Agencies (MARA)

Repossession volumes are up, but we are still operating lean.

The Michigan Association of Repossession Agencies was formed to keep repossessors in our state educated and informed about issues that may affect them. There has been a lot of discussions lately among the repossession industry trade groups about contracts, client requests, compliance and laws. We have heard from several repossessors in Michigan that are having issues with insurance. Please consider joining our Michigan Association to help increase our network of local agents and to keep informed of topics that may affect our industry.



Become a MARA Supporter or Member Today!

Contact us at michassocrepo@gmail.com or call 616-552-5674.

Mark S. Haskins - President

California Association of Licensed Repossessors (CALR)

History has shown that many states in our nation adopt the laws passed in California.

Become a CALR Supporter or Member Today!

Visit www.CALR.org for more information or call (818) 945-CALR (2257)

Marcelle Egley - President

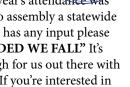


Texas Accredited Repossession Professionals (TexasARP)

Visit www.TexasARP.org for more information and on how to become a member. Stephanie Findley, President

info@TexasARP.org

Hello Everyone hope 2019 is finding everyone well, I have recently attended NARS in Dallas Tx, this year's attendance good and I received a very positive feeling from this year's event. Our association is currently trying to assembly a statewide event for all Illinois repossession agency's we are thinking about the Peoria area in the fall. If anyone has any input please contact me with suggestions or questions. Please remember everyone "UNITIED WE STAND DIVIDED WE FALL" It's very important that we work together and watch out for each other on the streets it's dangerous enough for us out there with out having to worry about fighting among ourselves. EVERYONE PLEASE BE SAFE OUT THERE. If you're interested in becoming a member of our association please contact us for more information.



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The clients do not need to search or worry about "unlicensed, uninsured and uneducated" agents working on their assignments. PRO has made sure all contracted agents are licensed, insured and educated. Each Allied member agent is also covered with a \$1,000,000 in client protection fidelity (crime) insurance. The number one concern for PRO is compliance.



For information, please contact Judy Barnes, General Manager, at: Pinnacle Repossession Organization P. O. Box 1891, San Marcos, TX 78667

Phone: (512) 214-8233;

Email: Jbarnes@pinnaclerepo.com

THE "TRAILS AND TRIALS" OF AN ASSET RECOVERY SPECIALIST

Guest Editorial by Ron L. Brown

As a person who has chosen to follow the uncharted "TRAILS" of an asset recovery specialist, better known to the public as a "REPO MAN", we wear many hats, one being that of a law clerk or pseudo-attorney.

One of the "TRIALS" the asset recovery specialist may expect to face is that to maintain compliance, follow regulations, present a calm and professional demeanor and avoid any type of breach of peace and subsequent lawsuits they should know the laws which govern the recovery industry on a Federal, State and in many instances even a City level.

As a "CERTIFIED EXPERT WITNESS" and "SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT" I would like to briefly address a few of the situations the agent can expect to encounter on a daily basis when confronted by the consumer, their relatives, neighbor's and their "Jail House Lawyer Friends.

"It is illegal for you to come on my property to repossess my vehicle."

The Uniform Commercial Code (UCC 9-503) clarifies the right of a secured party to take possession of a consumer's collateral on default without judicial process if a breach of peace does not result from that action. The actual wording in most U.C.C. Codes read:

SECURED PARTY'S RIGHT TO TAKE POSSESSION AFTER DEFAULT

- (a) After default, a secured party:
- (1) May take possession of the collateral; and
- (2) Without removal, may render equipment unusable and dispose of collateral on a debtor's premises under section 1-9-610 of this title
- (β) A secured party may proceed under subsection (a) of this section:
- (1) Pursuant to judicial process; or
- (2) Without judicial process, if it proceeds without breach of peace.
- (χ) If so agreed, and in any event after default, a secured party may require the debtor to assemble the collateral and make it available to the secured party at a place to be designated by the secured party which is reasonably convenient to both parties.

This issue has been addressed on numerous occasions by many courts of the land and in each case found to not violate the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the US Constitution, and over thirty Appellate Courts have had the opportunity to consider the self-help issue and have in each case upheld the constitutionality of self-help repossession.

"You trespassed on private property to repossess the collateral."

This is another issue the recovery agent should have a clear understanding of and to quote a landmark case held in Kroeger v. Ogsden 49 P 2d 781 (Oklahoma)

"Where the mortgage provisions authorize the mortgagee, in the event of the mortgagor's default, to exercise the option, without notice, of foreclosing a mortgage and entering upon the premises where the mortgaged chattel may be, to remove it, this gives the mortgagee a right practically amounting to a license, to go upon the mortgagor's private premises for that purpose, if this can be done in an orderly manner and without a breach of peace. If the mortgagee does this as a licensee, then of course he would not be a trespasser."

Continued on next page

Part of the "TRIALS" on this "TRAIL" is that the majority of consumers, law enforcement officers and even attorneys are not familiar with these rights granted a mortgager under the Uniform Commercial Code and therefore it is highly recommended by the members of EAGLE GROUPXX that all adjusters carry a "Certified True and Correct" copy of their state U.C.C Code with them at all times.

Ride the "TRAIL" that has the least chance of "TRIALS"

(Excerpt from the upcoming Eagle Group XX Publication "THE TRAILS AND TRIALS OF ASSET RECOVERY")



Author; Ron L. Brown
MCE, IFCCE, CCCO, MPRS, CARS, API
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Proposed Debt Collection Rule: CFPB Regulation



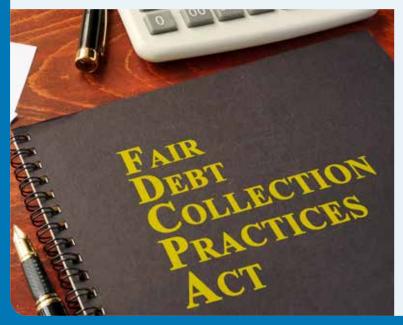
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On May 7, 2019, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau issued a proposed rule to amend Regulation F, 12 CFR part 1006, which implements the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA).

The bad.

The introduction to the proposed rule states that the CFPB proposes to "clarify how debt collectors may employ newer communication technologies in compliance with the FDCPA and to address other communications-related practices that may pose a risk of harm to consumers and create legal uncertainty for the industry," by prescribing substantive rules with respect to the collection of debts by debt collectors. "The Bureau also proposes to interpret the FDCPA's consumer disclosure requirements to clarify how industry participants can comply with the law and to assist consumers in making better-informed decisions about debts they owe or allegedly owe."



After having reviewed the 538-page document, it appears to me that the more things change, the more they stay the same. This rule is a *proposed* rule—which means it has to go through all the formal adoption procedures any federal government agency regulation goes through. But the final authority on what stays and what goes into the new "rule" is held by the agency itself. There is no vote or accountability to voters for the substance of the regulation. Once it is adopted, the courts can address problems or the Congress would have to act to change the regulation without agency agreement.

The Bureau is asking for feedback and comments from the public on the many sections in this rule. If you want to have any input into the rule you will have to live with (as a citizen, and as a repossessor), NOW is the time to speak up! The next 90 days are critical because after the comment period ends, the Bureau *might* listen and adjust the terms of the regulation, but there is no requirement—and certainly no guarantee—that it will.

My first observation is that it appears that the federal government wants to be in the business of regulating debt collectors. The next step in that parade will most likely be the federal government *licensing* of debt collectors. And the CFPB, specifically, really appears to want to act as the legislature and *write laws*, along with the regulations Congress gave them unlimited authority to write. States can continue to regulate debt collection within their own borders, but unless the State regulation is more restrictive than the federal law/rule, the federal regulation will supersede state law. If a State <u>does have</u> a more stringent debt

Proposed Debt Collection Rule: CFPB Regulation

collection regulation system, it can apply to be exempted from this new rule.

This "Debt Collection Rule" as proposed will "incorporate many existing provisions of the FDCPA...with only minor wording and organization changes." Of course, the wording Congress uses when it creates a law like the FDCPA is specifically chosen and painstakingly reviewed and organized into a distinct order, before Congress ever votes on the proposed law. Here the Bureau plans to change wording and organization of Reg F: aka write law! While it is true that the FDCPA (written in 1977) could use a refreshing to bring its terminology into the 21st century, my personal opinion is that such a job is reserved to the Congress. BUT, with the sweeping authority the previous Congress gave to the Bureau to write its own regulations and vote itself authority to take all actions it deems necessary, maybe Congress did give permission to the Bureau to do its job, too!

The good.

The flip-side of my apparent grumbling about this proposed regulation is the **joyous** fact that this proposed rule seems to indicate that the Bureau has accepted the fact that *repossessors are not debt collectors* under the FDCPA, *other than* for purposes of \$808(6) [12 CFR \$1006.22(e)].

The proposed regulation will restate the FDCPA definition of "debt collector" and will include an additional provision that private bad check enforcement programs are excluded as debt collectors under the regulation. In its discussion, the Bureau cites *Obduskey v. McCarthy & Holthus LLP*, 139 S.Ct. 1029 (2019), a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court ruling that, "a business engaged in no more than nonjudicial foreclosure proceedings is not an FDCPA-covered debt collector, except for the limited purposes of FDCPA section 808(6)."

Of course, the regulation will re-state the requirements of FDCPA 808(6) that **do** apply to security interest enforcers: "A debt collector must not take or threaten to take any nonjudicial action

to effect dispossession or disablement of property if: (1) there is no present right to possession of the property claimed as collateral through an enforceable security interest; (2) there is no present intent to take possession of the property; or (3) the property is exempt by law from such dispossession or disablement." And the violation of this section of the FDCPA by any debt collector—whether the collection action is by a "security interest enforcer" or not—will continue to be an unfair or unconscionable means of collecting the debt under the statute and under the regulation.

Obviously, the key to a repossessor avoiding liability under the statute except for this one provision is to be classified as a "security interest enforcer *only*". The Supreme Court was very clear that their ruling in *Obduskey* applies only to businesses that do nothing more than non-judicial foreclosure. And the concurring opinion by Justice Sotomayer took that analysis a step further by reminding us all that the ruling was based on a "security interest enforcer" that strictly complied with the state law requirements for enforcement, came in with clean hands and acted in good faith. "Enforcing a security interest does not grant an actor blanket immunity from the mandates of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act."

The other.

The proposed rule also does include quite a few "safe harbor" provisions for debt collectors. The regulation actually includes samples of what some of its provisions require, and the use of the sample is automatically assumed to be legal under the regulation. For example, specific wording is set out showing the best way to reply to a request for validation of a debt from a consumer. This should help stem the flow of litigation over some issues that have been causing many cases to be filed against debt collectors.

Electronic communications between consumers and debt collectors, as well as social and other public media use by debt collectors are addressed. Telephone

Continued on next page

Proposed Debt Collection Rule: CFPB Regulation

call frequency limits are defined. While this may be positive or negative in specific situations, at least the industry will have clarity on how much is too much.

The proposed rule creates a new category of communication called a "limited contact message". The statutory language can be used to make contact with a consumer without the contact being considered a "communication" from a debt collector; and, if the message is heard or read by a third party, it would not constitute a prohibited third-party disclosure.

The ugly.

Unfortunately, this proposed rule leaves almost as many open questions as it answers. Will this regulation take the place of the ill-defined UDAAP's? Or will the myriad of questions surrounding what is, and what is not, actionable under those provisions continue to plague the debt collection industry?

Since repossessors have been pulled into CFPB regulation as a vendor to regulated entities, does the recognition that only the "limited purpose definition" of a debt collector applies to repossessors even matter? If regulated entities are required to make sure that all of their service vendors meet all the same regulation-driven requirements that they have to follow, the "cram-down" of those onto service vendors effectively pulls the regulatory rug out from under repossessors and makes them subject to all debt collection regulations anyway.

How will a federal set of rules—that promise to eventually turn into a federal licensing requirement—

interact with the licensing requirements (or lack thereof) at the State level? The proposed regulation contains discussion of four formal studies about the effect of a regulation of this type on consumers' ability to obtain credit. The one study that involved auto loans showed the most negative effect on consumers. However, this study was waved off as not really accurate because "most delinquent automobile debt is resolved through repossession." The Bureau did recognize that most debt collection companies are small businesses; they did discuss tangential effects on collection agencies, debt buyers, collection law firms and servicers who acquire accounts in default. Is this an indication that repossession should never factor into the debt collection conversation? I believe the argument would be that the "security interest enforcer only" businesses are of so little significance to the data, they did not warrant being factored into the discussion.

The end.

The voice of repossessors and other "security interest enforcer only" businesses does matter. If you want to be heard in this particular conversation, the comment period is 90 days. You must speak up. If the Bureau representatives hear enough input from the repossession industry, maybe they will recognize that an entire sector of importance has been left out of the conversation. If they want to leave the entire industry out of the regulations, fine! But if repossessors are going to be regulated, they should also be heard.

You can access the proposed debt collection rule here:

https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/cfpb_debt-collection-NPRM.pdf

You can access the Fast Facts summary of the proposed rule here: https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/cfpb debt-collection-fast-facts.pdf

You can access the flowchart on the proposed rule's electronic disclosure options here: https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/cfpb debt-collection-electronic-disclosure-flowchart.pdf



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APRIL IS DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH - PULL OVER AND READ!

There are 3 main types of distracted driving: Visual, Manual & Cognitive. Recovery Specialist Insurance Group wants to help keep you safe on the roads, this month and all year long.

Visual Distractions - are those that make you take your eyes off the road.



One of the most common things we read in crash reports: "Driver states that he/she looked down for a second and did not realize OV (other vehicle) was slowing/stopping"

Think about all of the situations in your personal vehicles, tow trucks and camera cars that present an opportunity for visual distractions. Looking down at a cell phone, tablet or laptop, looking away to find something that has dropped or fallen, in personal vehicles, looking at your child/children/passengers, looking in the sun visor or rear view mirrors while grooming...

All it takes is a second and life as you know it could be over in an instant. We're not just talking about death or injuries, but damage to vehicles and property, potentially becoming uninsurable and having to give up your business because you can't find or afford insurance.

Manual Distractions are those where you move your hands from the wheel. Manual distractions include things like smoking in your vehicle, eating while driving, grooming while driving, holding a cell phone, changing the radio station, if controls are not on the steering wheel and reaching to wake up your computer or tablet.

From an actual 2015 collision report: "D1 stated he looked at his work computer [visual distraction] and saw it had fallen asleep. He stated he looked down at the lap top and moved his finger [manual distraction] across the finger pad to "wake it up"."

In this case, D1 claimed that he had a green light and that the other driver "ran the red" causing the collision. Driver 1's own dash cam showed his traffic light was clearly in the top red position when he entered the intersection, colliding with Driver 2.



This incident ended up being a six figure – almost 7 figure – insurance company payout and cost the repossession company involved dearly. The simple act of moving his finger across the finger pad is a manual distraction. D1 in this case was found to be at fault.

Actions like this are things that most any driver on the road today can find themselves guilty of. We all think that we are capable of multi-tasking - of doing more than one thing at a time and to some degree we are; but we always need to remain vigilant and attentive when behind the wheel. It isn't only our own lives we are dealing with when we are behind the wheel.

If you're like most companies today and carrying \$1 Million limits of liability as required by many of your contracts, every time you or an employee is behind the wheel, it is like giving them a million dollar blank

Continued on next page

check. We said it yesterday and will say it again...distracted driving is no joke! It is important that you have company training and policies that discuss distracted driving and have enforceable consequences if/when it occurs.

Perhaps the hardest to explain, manage and deal with, **Cognitive Distractions** are those that take your mind off of driving. The thing about cognitive distraction is that everyone, everywhere is almost always doing one thing while thinking about another.

As humans we believe we are extremely capable in terms of multi-tasking, and a lot of people can do more than one thing at a time.... We've all heard the comment "That person couldn't walk and chew gum.", when talking about someone who can't do more than one simple thing at a time.

But with the stresses individuals feel on daily basis, can someone really avoid cognitive distractions? How far can you



take this when dealing with distracted driving? The problem here is that when we talked about Visual and Manual distractions, the examples also involve Cognitive distraction as well.

In our first example from the crash report, the driver stated he looked away and didn't realize that traffic had slowed in front of him. In our second example, the driver stated he looked down and moved his finger across the finger pad to wake up a lap top that had gone into sleep mode. In both these cases, the drivers' minds were not on the road or driving process. Something in their minds made their attention go somewhere else.

Cognitive distractions are some of the most dangerous in my mind for this industry. You have cell phones, laptops, camera systems, driver fatigue, traffic & night driving and the stress, anxiety and for some adrenaline rush of nabbing that car – all of this plays with and weighs on your mind. Not to mention just the regular stress of your daily lives.

Only you can judge if you should be behind the wheel – if you're in a good head space and can devote the level of attention required to operate in a safe manner and avoid risk. A good driver isn't only necessarily the one who has never been in an accident; but is one who avoids putting themselves into the situation to be in or cause an accident.

April is Distracted Driving Awareness month, we want to drive home the point that it is crucial that you have company training and policies that discuss distracted driving and have enforceable consequences if/ when it occurs. (Just as import as having the policy is your willingness as an employer to enforce those policies – even when it is against your BEST driver that you think you can't do without.)



For more information on distracted driving, visit our website www.rsig.com, find us on Facebook www.rsig.com, find us of the find us o

DISTRACTED DRIVING ACROSS THE GENERATIONS... THE SILENT GENERATION TO IGEN/GENZ

Doing a quick check of pool of our insured drivers, we have individuals from 6 different generations represented. We have individuals from the Silent Generation, Baby Boomers, Generation X, Xennials, Millennials/GenY/GenNext, and iGen/GenZ – meaning we insure drivers born in the 1930s to those born in the late 1990s.

Which Generation are You?

Generation Name	Births Start	Births End	Youngest Age Today*	Oldest Age Today*
The Lost Generation The Generation of 1914	1890	1915	104	129
The Interbellum Generation	1901	1913	106	118
The Greatest Generation	1910	1924	95	109
The Silent Generation	1925	1945	74	94
Baby Boomer Generation	1946	1964	55	<mark>73</mark>
Generation X (Baby Bust)	1965	1979	40	54
<u>Xennials</u>	1975	1985	34	44
Millennials Generation Y, Gen Next	1980	1994	25	39
iGen / Gen Z	1995	2012	. <mark>7</mark> .	24
Gen Alpha	2013	2025	1	6



In 1930 the car radio was first introduced commercially – and it wasn't until 1979 that FM radio surpassed AM radio popularity. Today – satellite radio makes the world feel smaller than ever and some don't even bother with the radio, while they have wireless ear buds in while driving jamming to Apple Music.

Think about that... that is 70 years of changes in technology that some of your drivers are now experiencing and may be experiencing at an older age. On the flip side for those iGen/GenZ individuals, many have never known life without a cell phone and internet in the vehicle they are in is common place - and a world without these luxuries is considered ancient.

Insurance providers already require medical statements on any driver over 65. Why? To see if there are any underlying medical conditions that could increase risk that may be more common or more likely in older drivers. Things like eye sight, hearing, heart conditions, diabetes, blood pressure, history of seizures are questioned. Reaction times for older drivers can be longer and when you add distractions to the mix, it could be problematic. (Older drivers may also be less likely to embrace change and technology so learning how to use these distracting devices could be problem; or it could be a blessing inasmuch as an older driver may be less likely to use some if not all of distractions that are becoming more common place.)

Continued on next page

As a side note – as an employer you may want to consider asking some of these medical questions yourself regardless of a prospective employee's age. We have seen more than our fair share of drivers in their 30s/40s/50s have heart attacks, complications due to diabetes, seizures while driving because of the lack of self care many in the industry experience.

So how do you discuss distracted driving and get your employees to buy in to any corporate policy you may have when you may have to span 70 years of an age gap? Many experts suggest, you make it personal. Get information and statistics on the dangers and costs associated with distracted driving. Put things in perspective – reminding drivers of their own mortality and what it would do their families, or their ability to have a family in the future, or the guilt they may personally experience if they cause an accident because of distracted driving. Have systems in place that acknowledge and reward safe drivers, have policies that hold drivers (regardless of age) accountable for their driving behaviors.

RSIG has been providing the repossession industry top quality repossession insurance for more than 30 years with the industry's most stable insurance program available. We are able to do this by evaluating the needs of the industry, meeting those needs and offering an exceptional insurance product and service along the way. If you want more information about distracted driving, follow our FB page at www.facebook.com/RSIGInsurance or visit our website www.facebook.com/RSIGInsurance or visit our website www.facebook.com/RSIGInsurance or visit



RECOVERY SPECIALIST INSURANCE GROUP



To become an Affiliate or to purchase a DRN camera kit, contact us: 817.710.7655 or camerasales@DRNdata.com.





DRNrecovery.com

*Subject to DPPA permissible use.



SUPREME COURT RULES ON FDCPA APPLICABILITY TO REPOSSESSORS AND LAW FIRMS CONDUCTING FORECLOSURES

In a unanimous decisions, The US Supreme Court ruled Wednesday in Obduskey v. McCarthy & Holthus LLP that a business conducting nothing more than a security interest enforcement action, is not a "debtor collector" under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), except in enforcing security interest under actions covered under 15 USC §1692f(6).

Political activist and homeowner, Dennis Obduskey filed a lawsuit against the law firm of McCarthy & Holthus after they attempted to enforce a nonjudicial foreclosure on his Colorado home. Attorney, McCarthy sent preforeclosure letters to Obduskey regarding the impending foreclosure, to which Obduskey responded by accusing the law firm was in violation of 15 USC §1692g(b) in regards to it's mandated disputed debt verification procedure requirements.

Lower courts were in disagreement as to whether the FDCPA applied to non-judicial foreclosure proceedings, but Wednesday's decision clarified the dispute at the highest level. Lenders and debt collectors generally prefer non-judicial foreclosure proceedings because it accelerates the timeframe of the process, and as there is rarely any post foreclosure remedy of judgement enforcement available.

The decision is unfortunate for the thousands relevant consumers in the 29 states that allow non-judicial foreclosure proceedings who would have been afforded relief by the decision that a business conducting in the action of security enforcement, such as a repossession or foreclosure was a debtor collector.

The court was completely unconvinced by Obduskey's arguments and chose to rely on the FDCPA text in itself as well as legislative history, to come to the decision that: "those whose 'principal purpose ... is the enforcement of security interests' outside the scope of the primary 'debt collector' definition, \$1692a(6), where the business is engaged in no more than the kind of security-interest enforcement at issue, "nonjudicial foreclosure proceedings."

Concurring opinions were shared by Justice Stephen Breyer and Justice Sonia Sotomayor. Sotomayor later appealed to Congress to clarify if the Supreme Court interpreted the statute incorrectly and further, stated that this decision in itself does not provide "blanket immunity" for abusive debt collection practices by the businesses relative to the enforcement of security interests.



SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE

REPO19

Rethink • Engage • Participate • Organize

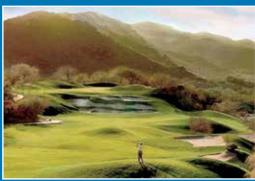
Hosted by: RSIG & Allied Finance Adjusters

June 18 - 21, 2019 at the Beautiful Arizona Grand Resort, Phoenix, Arizona















2019 Annual Convention Agenda

Please note the agenda is tentative and subject to change as speakers and content are added.

Day	Date	Event	Start	End
Tuesday	6/18/2019	Exhibitor Set Up	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
Tuesday	6/18/2019	Allied New Member Orientation	1:00 PM	2:30 PM
Tuesday	6/18/2019	Allied Pre-Con Board	3:00 PM	5:00 PM
Tuesday	6/18/2019	Welcome Reception w/Exhibitors	6:00 PM	9:00 PM
Wednesday	6/19/2019	Breakfast	7:00 AM	8:30 AM
We <mark>dnesday</mark>	6/19/2019	Introductions/Welcome Remarks	8:30 AM	9:15 AM
Wednesday	6/19/2019	*Handling Difficult Situations w Jack Schafer	9:20 AM	10:35 AM
Wednesday	6/19/2019	AM Break 10:35 AM 11:00 AM		
Wednesday	6/19/2019	*Handling Difficult Situations w Jack Shafer 11:00 AM 12:00 PM		
Wednesday	6/19/2019	Lender 101 - Panel Discussion 12:00 PM 12:30 PM		
Wednesday	6/19/2019	Lunch 12:30 PM 1:45 PM		
Wednesday	6/19/2019	*Case Law that effects you w Machelle Morris & Mike Howk	1:50 PM	3:20 PM
Wednesday	6/19/2019	PM Break 3:20 PM 3:40 PM		
Wednesday	6/19/2019	RSIG Member's Business Meeting (Members Only)	3:45 PM	5:00 PM
Wednesday	6/19/2019	RABF AUCTION/RAFFLE	6:00 PM	9:00 PM
Thursday	6/20/2019	Breakfast	7:00 AM	8:15 AM
Thursday	6/20/2019	*New Internet Profiling w Michele Stuart	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
Thursday	6/20/2019	AM Break	10:30 AM	10:55 AM
Thursday	6/20/2019	*Driver Behavior w Mark Ross	11:00 AM	12:00 PM
Thursday	6/20/2019	Lunch	12:30 PM	1:30 PM
Thursday	6/20/2019	*CFPB Training w Mike Howk	1:45 PM	3:55 PM
Thursday	6/20/2019	Allied Business Meeting (Members Only)	4:00 PM	5:30 PM
Thursday	6/20/2019	Awards Dinner w/ Entertainment	6:30 PM	10:00 PM
		* Indicates CE Requirement		
Friday	6/21/2019	RSIG Board Meeting	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
Friday	6/21/2019	Allied Board Meeting	8:30 AM	10:30 AM

If you are a voting member of RSIG or Allied, please note the dates and times of the association meetings and plan your travel accordingly if planning to participate in those events.

Dress Code for the Conference is Business Casusal. No Jeans & Preferably No Shorts during conference meetings or training events.

Previous Convention Pics



























2019 Annual Convention Speakers



O. Machelle Morris
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Legal@AlliedFinanceAdjusters.com

Machelle Morris is the foremost national legal expert on issues relating to repossession and security interest enforcement. Her focus since the early 1990's has been on repossession laws and regulations, and small business survival.

Her vast knowledge of repossession laws in every State, as well as an understanding of how state and federal regulations affect repossession companies, and other small businesses across the country, has made her the goto legal advisor for Allied Finance Adjusters Association and its members.

Machelle advises and teaches recovery agents, as well as other attorneys, on real-world compliance and contract issues. Several State laws directly reflect her input to the legislature on behalf of repossession business owners.

Machelle is licensed to practice law in Texas, New Mexico and Washington. She is a qualified mediator/ arbitrator; is a member of the Intellectual Property Law and Consumer Law Sections of the State Bar of Texas; is a licensed auctioneer; and is available as an expert witness on issues of collateral recovery and financial vendor compliance.

In addition to owning and operating her boutique law firm, Machelle is an active volunteer. She is an Officer and Director of faith-based Through the Storm Ministries (San Antonio, Texas). She is on the Advisory Board of The Former Texas Rangers Foundation (Fredericksburg, Texas) which seeks to teach Texas students about the history of the State of Texas and its premier law enforcement agency. She is also on the Advisory Board of The Life Center (Midland, Texas), a faith-based organization offering an alternative to abortion as well as teaching parenting skills and offering other assistance to expectant parents free of charge.

Machelle is a proud mother of four daughters and loves to travel. She is a lifetime member of the University of Texas Texas-Exes Alumni Association and an avid Red Raider fan as an Alumni of Texas Tech University School of Law.



Michael Howk, JD

Michael Howk, JD – is the Risk Manager and Director of Education for Recovery Specialist Insurance Group (www.rsig.com). Mike has spent nearly 30 years in the repossession industry, and is a recognized national expert in repossession law.

Mike, who is originally from upstate New York, served four years in military intelligence before graduating from the University of New York at Binghamton School of Management with a B.S. in 1977. In 1980 he graduated from Nova University in Florida with a Juris Doctorate. He has been a member of the Florida State Bar since 1980.

He was involved in the development and implementation of the first insurance policy specifically designed for repossession companies. Based on his work and research, he has developed extensive

educational programs. He teaches certification courses for recovery specialists nationwide. He worked closely with the State of Louisiana and Illinois during the implementation of their new self-help repossession laws.

He frequently serves as the keynote speaker to associations and groups of clients across the United States to further educate the industry on risk reduction and liability avoidance in repossession and collateral recovery.

In-house training and certification is available by contacting RSIG's administrative office at 703.365.0199. Online certification and training is available at www.rsiguniversity.com.



RECOVERY SPECIALIST INSURANCE GROUP

2019 Annual Convention Speakers



Michele Stuart Owner, JAG Investigations, Inc.

Michele Stuart is the owner and operator of JAG Investigations, Inc. since its creation in 1997.

Previous to this she was employed by Assets Intelligence starting a financial investigative career in 1990. Michele has over 24 years of experience in OSINT, counter intelligence, insurance fraud investigations, financial investigations, due diligence, corporate & competitive intelligence.

Over the past 15 years, she has taught hundreds of classes in open source intelligence and social media investigations for the law enforcement and military intelligence communities as well as the financial industry and insurance industry on a global level. She is an Instructor at Quantico (FBI Academy) for International training programs and an Adjunct Professor with University of Virginia.



Dr. John R. Schafer

Dr. John R. Schafer is a retired FBI Special Agent who is currently employed as an Assistant Professor at Western Illinois University.

Dr. Schafer served as behavioral analyst assigned to FBI's National Security Behavioral Analysis Program. Dr. Schafer earned a Ph.D. in psychology from Fielding Graduate University, Santa Barbara, California.

Dr. Schafer owns his own consulting company and lectures and consults in the United States and abroad. He authored a book titled "Psychological Narrative Analysis: A Professional Method to Detect Deception in Written and Oral Communications." He also co-authored a book titled "Advanced Interviewing Techniques: Proven strategies for Law Enforcement, Military, and security Personnel."

He has published numerous articles on a wide range of topics including the psychopathology of hate, ethics in law enforcement, detecting deception, and the universal principles of criminal behavior. Dr. Schafer's latest book is "The Like Switch: An Ex-FBI Agent's Guide to Influencing, Attracting, and Winning People Over."



Mark Ross Fleet Safety Consultant 804-387-1692 mark@spinfleet.com

Father to 2 bio/3 bonus kids, habitual black lab foster failure, and Founder and CEO of Spin Fleet Solutions, a fleet safety firm based out of Richmond, VA. Mark has been a leader in Fleet safety industry for over six years, with a focus on education, reducing distracted driving, and compliance. Spin Fleet Solutions works with fleet owners of all sizes to identify areas of risk, implement driver and process review, and enable thorough documentation. Bringing real-time HD quality video to fleet operators is a game changer for the repossession industry.

THE CPI AND AN INDUSTRY LEFT BEHIND

Guest Editorial by: Jeremy Cross, President /International Recovery Systems



In a scene from "Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery", Dr. Evil, waken from his cryogenic freeze, is ushered into a meeting with his top henchmen who are holding the world hostage on his behalf. When asked what they should demand, he responds "One Million Dollars", to the chagrin of his compatriots, who have relative knowledge of its diminished value. Unfortunately, this humorous illustration of an ignorance of inflationary factors plays itself out every day in the repossession industry.

In 1996 International Recovery Systems was incorporated in Pennsylvania as a repossession business. In 2010 when the company came under new ownership, amongst the quality of service and results, a plan was implemented to retain recovery data throughout the years. The information retained has been instrumental in demonstrating both the health and success of the company, as well as how it relates to industry trends.

In relation to a similar Consumer Price Index article published on CUCollector in 2017 "The \$500 Repo Fee", the revenue per assignment is still the most important KPI when analyzing your clients. However, relative to CPI, revenue per recovery is the instrument to utilize.

The Consumer Price Index is set by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, it is calculated by BLS employees who identify 80,000 - 100,000 items a month and measure the change in pricing. The CPI has also been referred to as the "cost of living" indicator which helps define a reasonable living standard.

As shown on next page in Figure 1-1,

IRS had a revenue per recovery rate of \$454.55 in 2008. During this time, agents were able to bill for close fees, day one storage, and more direct, higher paying clients were in the industry.

However, during the past decade, the CPI has increased 18.12%, while IRS' revenue has increased 2.39% as illustrated in Figure 1-2. Moreover, once those ancillaries were removed from the agent, the agent still needed to provide the service of storage and find a way to subsidize the assignments not located.

The fall between 2013-2015 was due to two large clients that left the direct model and went to the forwarding model, and with that went higher recovery rates, close fees, and extended storage.

Revenue per recovery pays for the assignments not located, which inherently are the most expensive assignments. With no way for the agent to capture the costs of running these assignments, they drain on the income derived from the others.

For International Recovery Systems to recover from the 2015 decline in revenue per recovery, we needed to invest in LPR technology as well as becoming a full locksmithing company, which required large capital, to an already vulnerable company. Fortunately, IRS has enough capital to invest in these products whereas other agents have not been so lucky. Since that time, IRS has been able to re-position itself as the leader of the repossession industry in the Philadelphia Market.

Compounding the issue, IRS has seen an 850% increase in compliance costs (various certificate and continuing education exams) from 2008-2018, a 17.65% increase in Ford F-450s, as well as insurance premiums doubling, at 112% in the same time period.

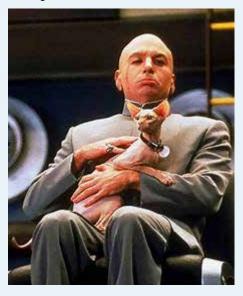
Managing costs is a challenge in and of itself, however, while knowing you will not be increasing your revenue proportionally to CPI, the task becomes cumbersome and nearly unsustainable. Not only does the CPI demonstrate goods and services across the country, but how defines your standard of living.

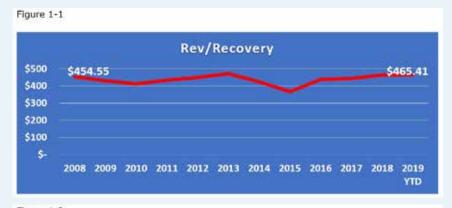
The bottom has been reached and we've been tossed a shovel to dig deeper. If repossession fees remain stagnant or decrease while ancillary income derived

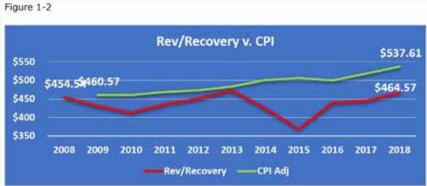
THE CPI AND AN INDUSTRY LEFT BEHIND

from storage and other services are taken away, repossession agents will continue to struggle until there are none left.

Comical "Evil Genius" Dr. Evil was asleep in a cryogenic freeze. He had an excuse. Wake up!







- Case Management From accepting new assignments to delivering to the auction
- My Mobile Agent Clearly the best agent management and mapping app.
 Available for Windows, Android & iOS
- LPR Exchange It's your data, share what you want with who you want
- Fleet Management Know where all your drivers are all the time

ALWAYS adding New Features / NEVER adding Transaction Fees.

Together We Change EVERYTHING! Call me to become a PRO user!

Thank you,

Bill Sheehan VP, Client Services My Recovery System Inc. 520-428-6767 Ext 109 - Office 916-215-1451 - Cell bill@myrecoverysystem.com



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www.MyRecoverySystem.com

CAN THE NEW TESLA PICK-UP TRUCK SAVE THE REPOSSESSION INDUSTRY?

Editorial by: Kevin Armstrong

In March, during the reveal of the Tesla Model Y, an image of the possible Tesla pick-up truck was on the screen behind Musk, in it's vague and cryptic glimpse, it was only shown for a few minutes to an audience completely unnoticed.

The image, shown below, is sketchy to say the least, but appears to be the front, or is it the back of their upcoming electric truck to be announced later this year. What it looks like, is really secondary, to what will it be able to do. Ask any agency owner and they will tell you, fuel is their highest expense. Might this be the answer to restoring profitability?



While Tesla has pushed back the production of it's semi-truck production into 2020 out of its Nevada production facility, Elon Musk had announced the announcement of it's long awaited smaller commercial sized pick-up truck later this year in 2019.

Described as having "cyberpunk overtones", it is suspected to be stylistically challenging with squarish 80's design influences.

Musk has given away very few details about the upcoming truck model, which he has been touting for some time now as being a developing product that he is very excited about, but assuming he holds true to his word, it will feature dual motors and "a suspension that dynamically adjusts for load," as standard. Its range could be as high as 500 miles and will reportedly "crush the competition" in towing capacity, making a stab at the Dodge Ram, with a reported 300,000 pounds of towing capacity.

Musk has set the bar very high for Tesla's upcoming pick-up, but the real questions should surround just how much it will sustainably tow, and at what cost to the overall range and drivetrain wear. The pickup was expected to have been ready for a sneak peek late this summer.

If customization to accommodate vehicle towing equipment is feasible, this could be a game changer. Obviously, other considerations will come into play, but none more than the price. Will the price of purchase, customization for towing, charging and maintenance be enough of an offset to fuel costs and similar expenses to make this a viable option?

CAN THE NEW TESLA PICK-UP TRUCK SAVE THE REPOSSESSION INDUSTRY?

The more attractive Dodge Ram styled version, offering a front tailgate and trunk, is clearly a more attractive truck, but, as previously mentioned, the devil will be in the details.



As is the issue with all Tesla's, customization is practically impossible, but considering the multi-purpose nature of the truck, I would find it difficult not to imagine some upgrades or built-in functionality for it to accommodate a slide in unit for towing.

I think everyone in the repossession industry knows that 2019 will be a transformational year. There will be more consolidation, probably more agencies closing and definitely higher insurance rates. The emergence of a viably priced electric tow truck could prove to a welcome and profitable offset to fuel expenses for those companies who do manage to successfully employ them, that is, IF it lives up to it's hype, and that's a lot of "ifs."



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San Antonio Recovery, Inc.

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CVO Recovery Inc.

Nikkie Kale

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Texas Investor Recovery Services (TIRS)

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Liberty Recovery Services, LLC

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4848 Tidwell Dr., Tyler, TX 75708

903-593-7230

Texas Recovery Service, Inc.

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Utah

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Lost Recovery Inc.

Casey Snyder 2231 N. Rulon White Blvd, Ogden, UT 84404

801-622-7376

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Salt Lake City
Patriot Towing and Recovery LLC
Brian Edwards

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Salt Lake City Network Recovery Systems

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William F. Thorpe Jr. 8235B Mechanicsville Tpke. Mechanicsville, VA 23111

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Norfolk

Hampton Roads Recovery Services LLC Geno Lee 312 E. 18th St., Norfolk, VA 23517 757-446-8576 Virginia

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Kirk K Ammons II 8618 Broadway Ave., Richmond, VA 23228

804-266-2700

Richmond

Select Recovery Agents, Inc. (VA)

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Rustburg VA,

Dragon Recovery LLC

Susan Hall

 $11626\ Wards\ Rd.\ Rustburg,\ VA\ \ 24588$

434-200-9012

Washington

Puyallup

Secure Asset Recovery

Amber Strickland

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253-432-1066

Wenatchee

Recovery & Auction Services, Inc.

Andrew Hooper

18 Cambridge Dr., Rock Island, WA 98850

800-707-7376

West Virginia

Bluefield

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David White

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Oak Hill

Grace Towing & Recovery, LLC

Chris Pavey

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304-640-3887

Wisconsin

Milwaukee

AMI Asset Management, Inc.

Dennis Birkley

807 Swan Dr., Mukwonago, WI 53149

262-662-0467

Milwaukee

Badgerland Auto Recovery, Inc.

Kurt D. Schwebe

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414-529-0260

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Contact Information

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- ✓ More than 30,000 AFA Member Directories are mailed to members and clients each year.
- ✓ Every member has a \$1,000,000 Fidelity Protection Policy.
- ✓ Every new member goes through an important screening process "Professionals only hire Professionals"

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- ✓ Clients have the ability to search by city or ZIP code and locate any AFA member within a 100-mile radius.
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The Members Only Area of the AFA website provides its members:

- ✓ Back office, client and agent forms that are editable for your letterhead condition reports, etc.
- ✓ Allied logos for use on your website and letterhead.
- ✓ Marketing mailing list of nationwide Automobile Dealerships, Credit Unions, Sub Prime Lenders and more! By state.
- ✓ All past and current monthly Allied Finance Adjusters Newsletters.
- ✓ CPFB, Employee and other Manuals available for download.
- ✓ Vendor discounts to AFA Members.

Allied Finance Adjusters Outreach:

- ✓ AFA wants to ensure ALL recovery agents are educated, protected and informed.
- ✓ AFA helps state associations by attending conventions, providing educational services and support.
- ✓ AFA monitors legislative issues that might affect the repossession industry on national and statewide levels.
- ✓ AFA is a member-driven association, and member input is welcomed and encouraged.
- ✓ AFA members experience a strong sense of brotherhood and unity a cornerstone of AFA since 1936.
- ✓ AFA is a major supporter of the Recovery Agents Benefit Fund (RABF).

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Certification For Professional Repossession Agents

The field of self-help repossession is changing at a rapid pace. New and constantly evolving laws, client requirements, technology enhancements and account brokers are some of the many changes the industry must deal with on a daily basis. The cost of these changes and the nature of the services performed by repossession agents have increased the potential that unqualified and or uninformed repossession agents could seriously affect our industry.

The need to remain informed is most evident with the changing and evolving laws, which give the repossession agent the authority to practice his or her trade. Some states have mandated knowledge requirements including testing, such as California and Florida. Other states, such as Louisiana and Wisconsin, have unique laws regarding who can self-help repossess and what has to happen when self-help repossession occurs.

Many members of the repossession community have long held the self-help repossession as an alternative to the use of the judicial process option allowed by the law. It goes without saying that both clients and courts need more confidence in the competence of repossession agents before they will be fully accepted as legitimate and professional participants in the world of lending and law.

RSIG has been training repossessors for 30 years through our annual seminars, training seminars and most formally through our certification program now available online through the RSIG University at www.rsiguniveristy.com. This is an online program available to students 24/7 when it is convenient for them. Our proctored exam ensures that the test

taker is the one taking the test. The fact that our exam is not an open book test means that the student has to prove their retention of the information and not just their ability to look back and find it.

The obvious benefits of certification are professional satisfaction, peer recognition, risk avoidance and economic advantage. In addition, recognized certification provides the availability of an acceptable marketing tool, the creation of a nationwide group of specialists and the establishment of uniform standards.

The arguments in favor of such a certification program are that they would improve quality for users of repossession services and reduce risk making insurance coverage more available and enhance the prestige and legitimacy of the repossession field.

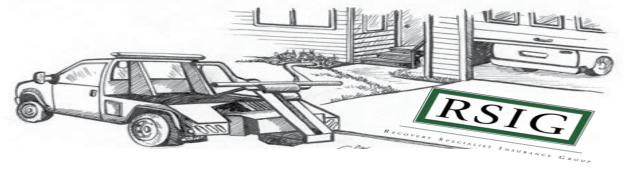
The industry has changed and needs to continue to change. Government is calling upon lenders to be more consumer conscience and lenders are passing those expectations to their repossession service providers. If you are not educating your workforce you are being left behind.





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