



This photograph was taken with a digital camera to show the technique involved in taking an overhead shot of a vehicle. The idea, of course, is to provide a bird's-eye view of a collision-damaged vehicle to help graphically portray the damages, hopefully to clearly demonstrate the principal direction of force (PDOF), an important parameter in most accident reconstructions. This setup uses a light stand, a 35 mm SLR camera with motor winder, and remote shutter firing.

The photograph below is typical of a print produced by the method shown above. This truck does not have any collision damages to portray. I didn't have a crashed vehicle handy, and I was reluctant to crash mine for a photograph! ☺



There is much more to the topic of basic photography; this newsletter merely scratched the surface. There are more details about this topic on the current feature page of my Web site. Please visit the site at www.mindspring.com/~ralphc and select the [current feature](#) link from the homepage to view the page about photography, if you are interested in this topic. My previous current feature about Crash Data Retrieval, though dated, seems to be attracting a significant amount of traffic to my site, so I have made it a semi-permanent page with its own links to and from the homepage.

Thank you for reading my newsletter. Please call me if you have any questions I may be able to answer or whenever you have need of the many services I offer.

**Ralph Cunningham
Accident Reconstructionist**

- Collision Analysis**
- On-road, Off-road, Marine**
- Pedestrian/Bicyclist**
- Motorcycle Collisions**
- Conspicuity Evaluations**
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