

Ralph's Accident Reconstruction Newsletter

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Another staged collision involved a Ford Crown Victoria driven at 46.5 mph directly broad-side into the right side of a Mercury Cougar. These vehicles remained together after impact, coming to rest as shown in the picture above, left. The photo on the right, above, shows what the Cougar looked like after the Ford was removed from it. Delta v for the bullet vehicle was 20.9 mph, and delta v for the target vehicle was 26.6 mph. The collision time was 130 milliseconds. A classic momentum analysis involving vehicle weights, vehicle positions and orientations at impact, and post-impact travel arrived at an answer which was less than two mph below the Ford's documented speed at impact.

My web site will feature more data and images from this seminar on several different current features; please check back monthly. The current feature on the Web site shows details of the collision between the Ford and the Cougar. There is a video of this collision available for download, for those of you with high-speed Internet access or three tons of patience. Because of space and bandwidth limitations at my previous URL of www.mindspring.com/~ralphc, I had to set up a new Web site to allow placement of the video: www.RalphCunningham.net. Please note the change, and please correct the entry in your Favorites list if you visit with any regularity. The old URL will only have a link to the new site. My email address remains the same: ralphc@mindspring.com.

As this newsletter is being prepared, I am in the process of incorporating. Those of you who conduct business with me will find that only the name has changed, from Ralph Cunningham to (probably) Ralph Cunningham, Inc. I felt this change was appropriate for the volume of reconstructions in which I am currently involved and other factors. I will begin to conduct business as a corporation on January 1, 2004. The only other change effective on that date will be an increase in the automobile mileage charge, from \$0.34 to \$0.40 per mile.

This will be my last newsletter for 2003. I am grateful to all of you who have used my services as an independent consultant. I hope all of my readers will have a safe and joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year. As always, please call me whenever you have a question regarding any of the services I offer.

Ralph Cunningham Accident Reconstructionist

Collision Analysis
On-road, Off-road, Marine
Pedestrian/Bicyclist
Motorcycle Collisions
Conspicuity Evaluations
Lamp Filament Evaluations
Crash Data Retrieval
Tire Failure Evaluations
Brake/Steering Evaluations
Seat Belts/Airbags



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