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July 20, 2026

Subject: Request for Review and Investigation of Assault on March 16, 2026, in the City of Buffalo, NY by suspected Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agent & being labeled a domestic terrorist by Erie County Business & Person Peter M. Vito & Associates

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to request that you review the circumstances surrounding an assault against me that occurred on March 16, 2026, in the City of Buffalo, New York, not far from elmwood avenue. I am sending this letter simultaneously to law enforcement, prosecutors, state officials, federal authorities, elected representatives, and members of the media, and more because I believe this matter deserves an independent review after my previous reports to the FBI, NYS Governor Kathy Hochul and NYS Attorney General Letitia James have received little meaningful follow-up. Despite repeatedly reporting this incident through official channels over the past four months, I have received little meaningful communication regarding whether the assault has been investigated.

On the afternoon of March 16, 2026, I was walking on a sidewalk along a side street in Buffalo, NY – specifically Ashland Avenue, when a black Mazda CX-90 abruptly turned onto the street/sidewalk and intentionally blocked my path. A Black male exited the vehicle and immediately confronted me. Like a block of ice, I was frozen.

Without warning, he rushed toward me at full speed, grabbed me by the neck area, and forcefully slammed me against a parked vehicle next to the sidewalk. I remember vividly being slammed against the rear of a large SUV. While strangling me by the neck area, he accused me of taking a photograph of his vehicle and demanded that I unlock my phone and delete the photo. He also threatened me with further bodily harm and death.

Fearing for my safety, I complied. I unlocked my phone and showed him my photo gallery, which clearly demonstrated that I had not taken any photograph of his vehicle. Only after satisfying himself that no such photograph existed did he release me, returned to his vehicle, and fled away.

I was able to photograph the vehicle and its Massachusetts license plate, 5FVN52.

During the assault, an employee inside a nearby business witnessed what occurred. While I was being held against the parked vehicle, I made eye contact with her and repeatedly yelled for help. The woman ultimately stayed inside the shop, which was smart on her end as there was no telling

what my assaulter was going to do next. The following day I contacted the business by telephone, and the employee confirmed that she had been working at the time of the incident. I have audio recording of that conversation, and you can find the link further below.

I also photographed the injuries to my neck area and back shortly after the assault. The photographs show what appear to be finger marks at the base of my neck along with bruising to my back area consistent with the force used during the attack.

Because the individual forced me against my will to unlock my phone, which is consistent with Immigrations and Custom's Enforcement behavior, and mentioned the words ICE, I contacted the Federal Bureau of Investigation to report what had occurred.

Since then, I have contacted the FBI multiple times and offered additional evidence, including photographs, audio recordings, the location of the assault, and the identity of the business where an eyewitness was present. To date, I have not been interviewed by an investigator regarding the assault.

I also contacted the Office of NYS Governor Kathy Hochul, the Office of New York Attorney General Letitia James, and my congressional representative Tim Kennedy seeking assistance. Aside from automated acknowledgments, I have not received any indication that the assault has been investigated.

The purpose of this letter is not to assign guilt without due process. My purpose is simply to ask that the evidence be reviewed and that this incident receives the attention it deserves.

I currently possess evidence that includes:

- A photograph of the suspect vehicle and Massachusetts license plate (5FVN52).
- Photographs documenting injuries to my neck area and back immediately following the assault.
- Audio recordings related to the eyewitness and my subsequent reporting of the incident to the FBI.
- The name and location of the business where an employee witnessed the assault.

This incident has had a lasting impact on my sense of safety. Being assaulted in broad daylight without apparent consequence—and then receiving little or no meaningful follow-up despite reporting the incident to numerous public agencies—has left me with the impression that my case has simply been overlooked.

While a separate incident which occurred several years ago in 2019, I would also like to add that I've been falsely proclaimed part of a domestic terrorist organization by a Niagara County resident named Peter M. Vito who owns business Peter M. Vito Associates located in Erie County. Peter Vito, a purported private investigator went door to door including my family's

residence claiming I am part of a group classified as a terrorist organization by the FBI. Mr. Vito only made these claims after my family reported his two employees, who were DHS (Department of Homeland Security) employees, engaging in unlawful harassment of my family. Thankfully, I have video of Peter M. Vito and his sidekick making such “terrorist” statements about me. With that said, I am not a terrorist and have my B.S. in Accounting from the University at Buffalo and currently work full-time. It is best to reach me via e-mail due to my varied work schedule.

Here’s the link to the video which you can view of Peter M. Vito proclaiming I am part of a terrorist organization:

<https://rifordmedia.com/trump-nominee-peter-vito-states-kevin-riford-is-domestic-terrorist-but-who-is-peter-vito/>

I respectfully ask that whoever receives this letter review the evidence, determine whether additional investigation is appropriate, and, if your office is not the proper authority, direct this matter to the appropriate agency. At a minimum, I would greatly appreciate acknowledgment that this information has been received and reviewed. I would be happy to engage in a confidential interview with any media outlets outlining exactly what has occurred in this letter.

My goal is simple: that this assault and “domestic terrorist” claim be taken seriously.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

/s/ Kevin Riford
B.S. Accounting, University at Buffalo
Investigative Journalist
www.rifordmedia.com

Email Copies Sent To:

- Erie County District Attorney's Office
- Erie County Sheriff's Office
- Buffalo Police Department
- Office of Governor Kathy Hochul
- Office of New York State Attorney General Letitia James
- Federal Bureau of Investigation – Buffalo Field Office
- ‘ICE’ Office of Professional Responsibility

- Local Buffalo Media Outlets
- & More

Emails:

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editor@buffnews.com.

**EXHIBIT A – My bruising and marks left from
my assaulter**



EXHIBIT B – The vehicle driven by my assaulter

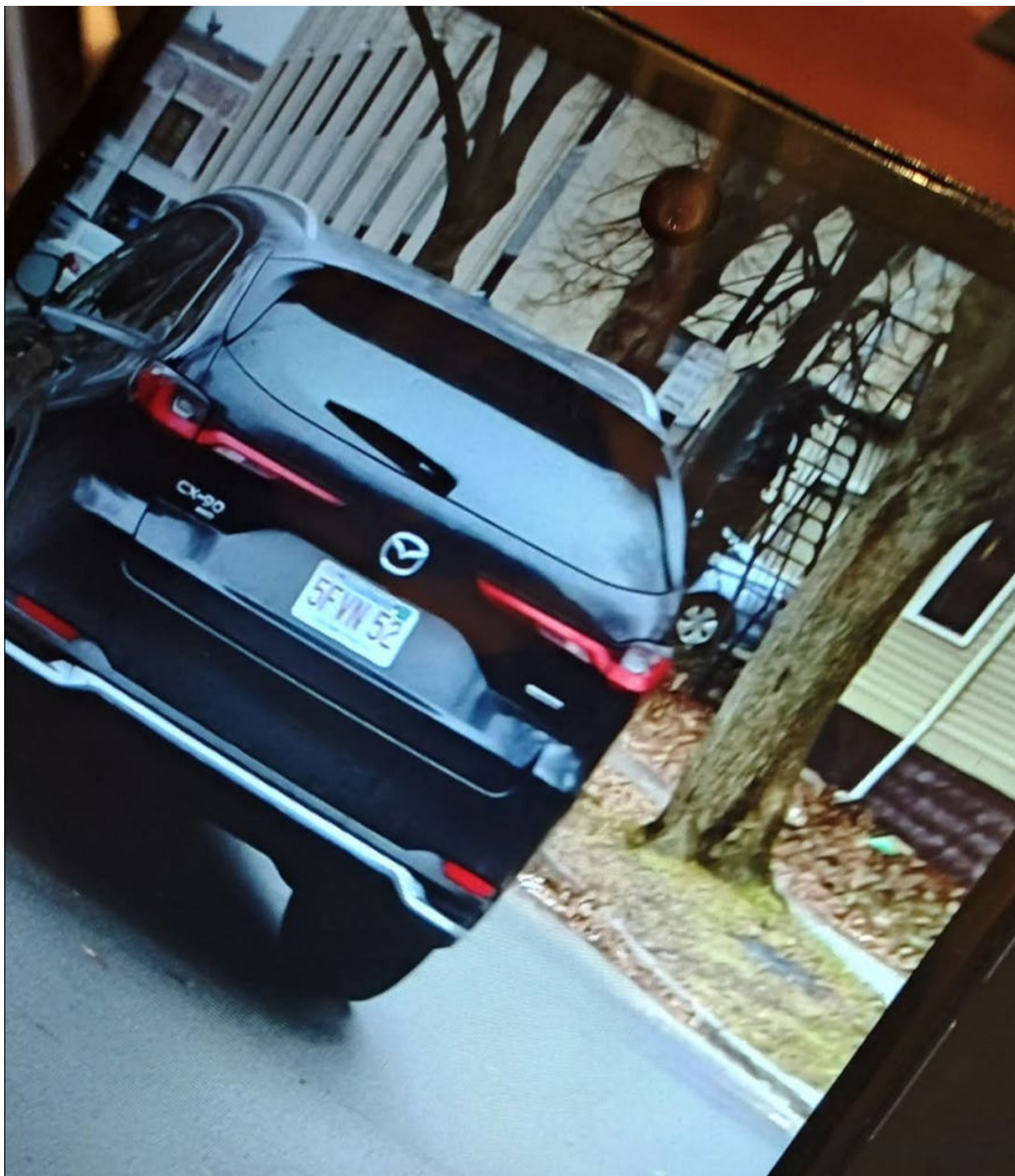


EXHIBIT C – Vehicle Inspection Report of Vehicle driven by my assaulter

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program

Vehicle Inspection Report

MASSACHUSETTS



VEHICLE CHECK

Cleaner Air • Safer Roads

Please Review This Important Information

Your vehicle has **PASSED** its **SAFETY TEST**. The results are summarized in this report.

Questions? Visit www.mass.gov/vehiclecheck or call Customer Service at 844-358-0135. Customer Service is staffed from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 7 a.m. to Noon on Saturday.

Overall Result:	Vehicle Information	Station Information
Safety Result: PASS	VIN: JM3KKEHD8S1227237	AVIS RENT A CAR
Emissions Result: N/A	License Plate: 5FVN52	375 MCCLELLAN HWY
Start Test Date/Time: 3/18/2025 3:07 PM	Plate Type/State: PAN / MA	EAST BOSTON MA
End Test Date/Time: 3/18/2025 3:14 PM	Vehicle Type: PASSENGER	(617) 561-3610
Test Type: Regular	Year / Make: 2025 Mazda	
Sticker Number: 262188017	Model: CX-90	Station Number: 1019004
Inspection Type: Initial	Fuel Type: GASOLINE	Workstation Number: MAW00001395
Inspection Counter: 1	Engine Cyl / Size: 6 / 3.3L	Inspector Number: *****7264
	GVWR: 7000	
	Odometer: 6	

Inspection Fee	\$35.00
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Safety Inspection Results

License Plate Mounting and Condition	PASS	Service Brakes	PASS	Parking Brake	PASS
Horn	PASS	Stop Lights and Tail Lights	PASS	Headlight Aim and Operation	PASS
Lighting Devices and Reflectors	PASS	Directional Signals and 4-Ways	PASS	Front End	PASS
Steering and Suspension	PASS	Frame	PASS	Windshield Wipers and Cleaner	PASS
Safety Belts	PASS	Air Bags	PASS	Muffler and Exhaust System	PASS
Window Tint	PASS	Windshield	PASS	Rear View Mirror	PASS
Bumpers/Fenders/Exterior Sheet Metal	PASS	Fuel Tank Filler Cap	PASS	Fuel Tank Filler Neck and Components	PASS
Visible Smoke	PASS	Altered Vehicle Height	PASS	Tires	PASS
Other	PASS				

Inspection Comments

None

On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) Results	OBD Readiness Monitor Results	OBD Additional Data
Tampering Check	N/A	Catalyst
Connector Result	N/A	Catalyst Heater
RPM Result	N/A	Evaporative System
Key-On BulbCheck	N/A	Secondary Air System
Engine-Running Bulb Check	N/A	A/C System
Scan Tool Check	N/A	Oxygen Sensor
Communication Result	N/A	Oxygen Sensor Heater
MIL Status Result	N/A	EGR and/or VVT System
Readiness Result	N/A	

OBD Diagnostic Trouble Codes

N/A

OBD Permanent Fault Codes

N/A	P0073	P0602	P06B8	U0115
U019F	U0420	U0452	U0632	

VIR Number



Scan to visit website:



EXHIBIT D – Form I filled out which is supposed to be sent to NYS Gov. Kathy Hochul and/or office

Homeland Security



Subject*

I was assaulted by ICE - Immigration Customs Enforc

Message*

Dear Governor Hochul,

I am writing to report a concerning incident that occurred on 3.16.26, involving an individual driving a 2025 Mazda CX-90 (VIN: JM3KKEHD8S1227237, Massachusetts plate: 5FVN52). This incident

Disclaimer: By submitting this form you are agreeing to receive email updates from the State of New York.



0:00 / 1:16



EXHIBIT E – Audio of woman who witnessed my assault

Witness audio: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSOKHIbvZis>

**EXHIBIT F – Link which contains Peter M. Vito video
falsely proclaiming I am part of a domestic terrorist
organization**

<https://rifordmedia.com/trump-nominee-peter-vito-states-kevin-riford-is-domestic-terrorist-but-who-is-peter-vito/>