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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

Laris Shelman & Sons Trucking, Inc.
709 W. Hwy 78
Winfield, IA 52659

02 JAN 29 AM 8:09

August 13, 2001

Russell B. Capelle, Jr.
Assistant BTS Director for Motor Carrier Information
Office of Motor Carrier Information
Bureau of Transportation Statistics
Room 3430
400 Seventh St., SW
Washington, DC 20590

BTS-01-11069-50

Dear Sir

The burden of proof is always hard to prove unless there is trust among people. Our family farms in this area and we are the largest employer in our little rural town of Winfield, IA. We are a large contributor to the fire dept and other local organizations. Since we stand out in our small community, I feel our reputation will be damaged if this type of information you request is made public. People do not realize you have to have a high income in order to make principal payments on tractors and trailers. If we were in a larger community we would fit right in with other large companies.

I also feel this information would be harmful in the hands of the employees, since they don't understand what it takes for a company to survive. Since we are not equipped with the software to provide this kind of information, it was a great expense to our company to hire Denman & Co. of Des Moines, a group of CPAs to compile all of the information.

In summary, if you can't trust my judgement, when I say it will cause great hardship on my company, I guess our company will have a hard time explaining the harmful effects it will have. I trust you will give our request for confidentiality, consideration.

Sincerely,

Laris Shelman
Laris Shelman

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