



June 1, 2022

MEDIA Contact: Janet M. Kelley, Flagman™ Communications Director

Direct: 808-285-7712 Email: janet@manameans.com

[VIDEO LINK HERE](#)

MEDIA ADVISORY

Court Case: State of Connecticut vs. Dean Robert

Scheduled: Bridgeport Superior Court, 172 Golden Hill Street Bridgeport, CT 06604

Thursday, June 2, 2022, 2 p.m.

- **Press Conference**, *On the courthouse steps at approximately 3:30 p.m. following the hearing*
- Seating for the press is allowed by Judge Dayton
- **CASE DOCKET NUMBER F02B-CR21-0339745-S**

Historic Sentencing Hearing June 2, 2022, in the case of Corey J. Iodice

Cindy Iodice holds Press Conference in CT today in Corey Iodice case, Flagman™ introduced

U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal joins to discuss Congressional efforts to promote road safety

June 2, 2022, (Bridgeport, CT) in Superior Court today, Cindy Iodice, founder of Flagman™ holds a Press Conference about the sentencing of the drunk driver who killed her brother Corey J. Iodice on April 22, 2020. The sentencing is a historic and landmark case in Connecticut, which will be the very first time that Connecticut courts apply the language of the SLOW DOWN MOVE OVER (SDMO) law, enacted in 2009. U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) will join the press conference to discuss Congressional efforts to raise awareness of Slow Down, Move Over (SDMO) laws to promote road safety.

Corey John Iodice, 58 of Seffner Florida, a Tow Truck Driver was tragically killed, in the line of duty, on Wednesday, April 22, 2020. He was born in Bridgeport, CT. on August 31, 1961, to Russell and Patricia (Tupy) Iodice. Corey was a lifelong towing and recovery specialist who was well respected for his abilities to execute any recovery regardless of the circumstances. He was an anomaly in the towing industry and a consummate professional who was widely known as the guy who made safety his top priority. Corey took pride in working side by side with his brother Chris and their father Russ during countless emergencies for the Fairfield Police and Fire Services.

-continued-

In 1991, they were each awarded a Civilian Service Medal from the town of Fairfield for saving the life of a victim involved in a horrific crash on Interstate 95. Corey loved the outdoors and enjoyed camping, hiking, biking, and his dog Dude.

Because of this tragedy, Corey's sister, Cindy Iodice, founded a new national non-profit organization, Flagman™. The Flagman™ mission is to reduce struck-by-vehicle injuries and fatalities nationwide. This will be achieved with increased public awareness and a national public education program facilitated by Flagman™. Flagman™ is already bringing national awareness to the driving public of "SLOW DOWN MOVE OVER" laws with the recent mention of Corey Iodice's tragic accident by Senator Richard Blumenthal to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg, in a Senate committee hearing on May 3, 2022, in Washington D.C.

Since the tragedy of losing her brother, Cindy Iodice has asked for assistance from various organizations to help save lives through her new initiative, Flagman™. She has received overwhelming support from all sides of transportation, emergency services, police, fire, and major media to execute the Flagman™ launch.

National organizations that pledged support of Flagman™ with donations and advocacy are MADD, AAA, and the Department of Transportation. In her home state of Connecticut supporters, partners, donors, and advocates include AAA New England, AMR, CRCOG, CT Fire Police, CT State Police, Fairfield CT Fire Dept., and Fairfield CT Police Dept., Fire Fighter Union of CT, HASS Alert, Intl. Assoc. of Firefighters, TRPC, Iodice Family Transport, Mickey's Towing, Strollo Bros. Towing, Chippy's Service Station, Farmington Motors., Westport Fire and Police Department. Additional Flagman™ supporters and advocates include ERSCA, The International Towing and Recovery Hall of Fame, Wall of the Fallen, Survivor's Fund, Miller Industries, Tow Times, MA Fire Fighters Union, and RI Fire Fighters Union.

It is because of the support from these generous organizations Flagman™ will make a difference on our roads and save lives for generations to come.

Cindy Iodice, founder of Flagman™ shared, "We believe the solution to the national SDMO problem is in educating our children and the driving public of the dangers our first responders and other highway workers face daily. "When my brother Corey was struck and killed, the importance of Introducing Flagman™, for Slow Down Move Over moved from my head to my heart."

Flagman™ will help save lives in every community. We are racing against the clock. On average every 4.65 days, an Emergency First Responder is struck and killed working on America's roadways. Sixty-five Emergency Responders were struck and killed in 2021. According to AAA, 1662 people were struck and killed outside their disabled vehicles between 2015 and 2018. Every day in the US, Emergency Responders are struck by vehicles and killed in secondary collisions. These fatalities are on the rise and together with your help, we can stop deaths before they happen.

#Istandwithflagman

www.flagmansafety.com

#

Iodice Family Biographies



Corey Iodice

August 31, 1961—April 22, 2020

Corey John Iodice, 58, of Seffner Florida (formerly of Fairfield), was killed in the line of duty, on Wednesday, April 22, 2020. He was born in Bridgeport, CT on August 31, 1961, to Russell and the late Patricia (Tupy) Iodice. Corey was a lifelong towing and recovery specialist with Iodice Family Transport, who was well respected for his abilities to execute any recovery regardless of the circumstances. He was an anomaly in the towing industry and a consummate professional who was widely known as the guy who made safety his top priority. Corey took pride in working side by side with his brother Chris and their father Russ during countless emergencies for the Fairfield Police and Fire Services. In 1991, they were each awarded a Civilian Service Medal from the town of Fairfield for saving the life of a victim involved in a horrific crash on Interstate 95. Corey loved the outdoors and enjoyed camping, hiking, biking, and spending time with his dog Dude.

The family is well-known and respected in Fairfield. Iodice Family Transport was formerly Mickey's of Fairfield



Cindy Iodice

Cindy, the younger sister of Corey Iodice, is passionate about telling stories close to her heart. Often stories about family, community, culture, and life events. Cindy directed *Bucciano*, a feature documentary film about finding family in a remote village in Southern Italy (post-production); *Tow it All*, a feature documentary about her father's rise in the towing industry landing him in the hall of fame and her brother's tragic death while assisting a disabled motorist in 2020 (post-production); Director of Photography on Indie Feature Film *Mango Dreams* (Writer, Director Pete Britos). The film is a coming-of-age story about a nine-year-old boy and his single mother. (post-production). Cindy's short film, *The Bridge*, won twenty-seven international awards. The story is based on the untimely loss of her big brother Brian (1981) and the reconciliation of guilt and grief. Cindy has worked on other projects in various capacities: Cinematographer, Camera Operator, D.I.T (Digital Imaging Transfers) and Photographer. Film credits on other award-winning projects include Sundance Indigenous Lab *Waikiki the Film*, short film *38 Minutes*, *Chasing Shadows* on Amazon Prime, *Ride the Thunder* 2014 Oscar shortlist, Netflix, and *Kumu Hina* 2011 Netflix, Amazon Prime, and PBS. She is a juror for World Cinema International Film Festival in London, Milan, Madrid, Nice, and Antwerp since 2019.

As a filmmaker born in Fairfield, CT and now living in Honolulu, Cindy has made it her mission to educate the driving public about the dangers emergency responders and towers face assisting motorists on roadways. As a result of her brother's death, Cindy Iodice is launching *Flagman™* on June 2, 2022, nationally to highlight those hazards. Her campaign (think MADD) includes a national Public Service Announcement Campaign featuring an animated *Flagman™* character, TV and Digital PSA, short videos, a website, a K-12 educational program, and an awareness campaign aimed at children, younger drivers, drunk drivers, and the entire driving public. As a national non-profit with a 501(c)3 *Flagman™* is seeking financial support from various safety organizations, transportation industry companies, and government grants. www.iodicemedia.com



Russell Iodice

April 28, 1939—December 17, 2020

Russell Iodice, 81 of Fairfield, the beloved husband of Patricia (Tupy) Iodice, died of Covid-19 Pneumonia on Thursday, December 17, 2020. He was born in New Haven to the late Michael “Mickey” and Julia (Nagy) Iodice and was a lifelong area resident.

Russ realized his childhood dreams in 1957 when his father bought him his first tow truck. He taught himself how to use it and enjoyed showing it off and sharing his knowledge with the local townspeople. In the late 70s, Russ was one of the first tow operators in Fairfield County to invest in air cushions for rescue and recovery purposes. He then conducted airbag training classes with local fire departments. In the 80s, Russ worked closely with the Fairfield County Chapter of MADD.

Russ’ career spanned more than 70 years as owner and operator of Mickey’s Auto Body and Mickey’s of Fairfield. He developed a reputation for being one of the best heavy-duty recovery specialists in Connecticut. He received many accolades for his work and willingness to help anyone in need.

Russ was one of the founders, former President, Vice President, and Board Member of the Towing and Recovery Professionals of Connecticut (TRPC). In 1991, Russ and his sons, Corey and Chris were honored by the Town of Fairfield with the Civilian Service Medal and Towman Commendation after saving the life of a motorist who became trapped under a tractor-trailer on Interstate 95. Russ was instrumental in building the foundation of the towing industry in the state of Connecticut. In 1995, Russ achieved the highest honor in the towing industry when he was inducted into the International Towing and Recovery Hall of Fame for his groundbreaking work. He also received a distinguished service plaque for his contributions to the Special Olympics World Games.

Russ was a Connecticut State Representative for the Towing and Recovery Association of America (TRAA). He was recognized as Towman of the Year and a lifetime member of Friends of Towing. One of his greatest achievements was being able to share his knowledge and work side-by-side with his sons, Corey, and Chris, who have proudly carried on the family work ethic. Sadly, Corey was tragically killed in the line of duty on April 22, 2020.



Chris Iodice and wife, Kristin

Chris Iodice shared his passion for trucks with his dad Russ and his brother Corey and has been involved in the family business since he was a young boy. Chris has amassed over 40 years' worth of family business history: newspaper articles, photographs, film negatives, training videos for the local police and fires departments, award ceremonies, VHS tapes, 8 mm film, 16 mm film and digitized film files of Mickey's Towing and Recovery. Mickey's Towing of Fairfield was the company called upon to respond to the most extraordinary vehicular crashes on Connecticut's roads and highways dating back to the 1960s. Chris continues to respond as a first responder on the same roads where his father once worked. Chris also continues his work in the towing and transport business and is a highly respected hardworking member of his community in Fairfield County Connecticut. He is a dedicated husband (his wife, Kristin, manages the companies' books) and he is the proud father of two daughters: Maddy (12) and Jayme (18).

Chris has made it clear that he is the last generation of towers in the Iodice family lineage.