

Dear Senator Williams and Committee Members,

Good morning. I would first like to give all praise and honor to God and thank Senator Williams for the invitation to speak before this committee today.

My name is Angela McDonald. I am the mother of Mark McDonald Ringgold, the youngest of my three children and my only son. On July 31, 2025, Mark was the victim of a hit-and-run crash in West Philadelphia at 62nd Delancey Street. He was on his way home from work at the Kimmel Center when he was struck by an SUV just two blocks from his house. The impact was so severe that he was thrown half a block and out of his shoes. He lay in the street for fifteen minutes without oxygen before rescue arrived. Mark was transported to Presbyterian Hospital, where he was pronounced brain-dead. He passed away the following day, August 1, 2025, just two weeks before his 33rd birthday.

This tragedy has shattered my world and changed my family's lives forever. Mark and I spent countless hours together, and his absence has left me with constant racing thoughts, sleep deprivation, and overwhelming grief. I served with the Philadelphia Police Department for 25 years and witnessed many tragedies involving vehicles, but experiencing this personally is entirely different. The hardest part of this tragedy is not the grieving process it's the Not knowing that will kill you. I stand before you today because I truly believe the Jay Alert system would definitely be a great asset in helping law enforcement agencies. It would allow leverage needed to be able to solve more leaving the scene crashes quicker and more efficiently if it was implemented into law, as an experienced patrol officer of 25 years having handled many auto accidents by the time you arrive on location of the accident the tow truck drivers are usually on location already depending on the distance from where you're coming by the time you arrive the tow truck drivers have the vehicles hooked up and they are ready to tow them to a garage or auto body shop and the owners of the auto body shops are not aware of the nature of the accident the vehicle was in whether or not it was auto verses auto or auto verses person or auto verses cyclist. With this system in place they would be aware of these vehicles that are being sought by police that have been involved in hit and run crashes. The Jay Alert system would definitely be an asset in helping police track down the vehicle's used in these crashes which allow them to locate people responsible and hold them accountable.

Thank you for your time and for allowing me to share Mark's story.

Sincerely,

Angela McDonald