



January 7, 2020

Susana A. Mendoza
Illinois State Comptroller
325 West Adams
Springfield, Illinois 62704

100 West Randolph Street, Suite 15-500
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Dear Ms. Mendoza,

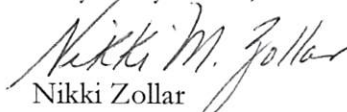
I write to respond to factually inaccurate and untrue statements you made regarding SafeSpeed, red-light cameras, and the municipalities where they are employed to improve traffic safety. Your statements reflect false assumptions based on incomplete information. You rely on media hearsay to disparage both red-light cameras generally and our small company specifically, and based on that specious hearsay, you have now pulled back a significant and longstanding benefit to Illinois taxpayers. Here is the truth:

SafeSpeed provides red-light camera technology systems to municipalities to improve public safety. The intersections where municipalities decide to place red-light cameras have been determined by the local police department and the Illinois Department of Transportation to be dangerous for pedestrians and drivers alike, and require rigorous traffic studies before the cameras' installation. Enforcement of red-light camera violations provides a significant and substantial deterrent to reckless drivers who put their own unsafe driving above the health and safety of our fellow residents of Illinois. Your actions undercut that public service, particularly where you have undertaken those actions unilaterally, without process, and at a time when Illinois faces the very real prospect of increased impaired driving due to new laws around recreational marijuana use.

In 2019, when the fact of a federal investigation of political corruption involving several of your fellow state-level elected officials became public, SafeSpeed was as troubled by the allegations as anyone. SafeSpeed does not condone the alleged illegal activity. To the contrary, we condemn any form of corruption. Consistent with our values, SafeSpeed has been fully supportive of the federal investigation.

While you have claimed to have invoked your "moral authority" to attack red-light camera companies and municipalities, you admitted in your press conference that this is based on conclusions you have drawn from newspaper reporting, which is, as you well know, incomplete. It is regretful that a state public official has made such a serious decision without adequate information, without input from municipalities and the companies impacted, and without due concern for the people of Illinois. We encourage you to revisit your decision with the benefit of input from communities impacted and the vendors who service them.

Very Truly Yours,


Nikki Zollar
Chief Executive Officer