

To Whom It May Concern:

This testimony is in support of SB388, an Act Establishing a Pilot Program For Speed Detecting Cameras and Concerning Speed Warning Signs.

My name is Gretchen Crist. I am the Senior Vice President of Human Resources North America at Henkel, which is located at 200 Elm Street in Stamford, Connecticut. On January 2 of this year, just one day into the new year of 2018, a dear colleague, friend, spouse and mother, Lynette Wagner, was tragically struck by a motorist while crossing N. State Street to Elm Street and died. She was en route, during rush hour from the train station, to the Henkel offices where she was a vice president on the Human Resources team.

I can't begin to share with you the loss this tragedy has left behind. Lynette was an incredibly talented professional in a very key role for the North American region of Henkel, a close friend and confidant to many of her colleagues at Henkel, and a loving spouse and mother of two. Lynette left us far too soon as a result of a preventable accident. She still had much to achieve and many experiences of life to share with her loved ones including the wedding of her daughter this coming summer. I will also share with you that days after this tragic event I needed to access Lynette's computer and learned that her password was "retirement". So close she was to enjoying the golden years of life that she worked incredibly hard to soon appreciate. There are no words to express the sadness we all are experiencing.

It goes without saying that speed detecting cameras are critical to ensuring that no other such tragedy occurs again. While we cannot bring back Lynette, in her honor we can strive to achieve greater safety for pedestrians of Stamford. Speed detecting cameras, with appropriate penalties for offenders, are not uncommon in urban settings. There is immediate needed behavior change for motorists approaching Elm and N. State Street. I ask that you support this act and the many pedestrians that pass this intersection daily by instituting greater safety precautions that will get the attention of motorists and lead to behavior change. Pedestrians deserve to walk the streets of Stamford without fear.

Thank you for your consideration.

Gretchen Crist