

**DECLARATION OF DR. TEDERHI TEDDY USUDE**

1. My name is Dr. Tederhi Teddy Usude. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this declaration, and I can testify competently to them if called upon to do so.
2. In summation: Dr. Usude is a dentist in Santa Clarita, CA. He rented a car from the Hertz location in Santa Clarita for work since he took a job in a rural hospital in Laytonville, CA. He extended repeatedly. On December 8, 2020, he told Hertz that due to a COVID outbreak at his hospital he was returning the car the week of Dec. 16, 2020. When he was driving into Santa Clarita to return the vehicle on December 18, he was shocked when he was felony arrested at gunpoint. He was told it was because he had embezzled and stolen a vehicle from Hertz. He was jailed overnight and released the next day by police. When he followed up trying to get his court date, he was told that no one could find any trace of his case. He now fears that he is going to be arrested again and prosecuted for theft.
3. Dr. Usude rented a car on June 11, 2020, from the Santa Clarita - Bouquet Canyon HLE location in California. The rental was initially 1 week long, until June 18, 2020. The reservation number was J4254381070.
4. He gave Hertz his business debit card, a Visa from JP Morgan Chase.
5. He needed the rental because he had taken a job in Laytonville, CA at a rural hospital in Northern California.
6. Thereafter he called the Hertz location and extended many times, and the location always said he was good to go.
7. In December 2020, he received a threatening communication from Hertz employee Harout Boghossian at the Santa Clarita location claiming that Hertz was going to report the car stolen if it was not returned.

8. Dr. Usude informed Boghossian that the car was not stolen, that he would return it as soon as possible, that there was a COVID outbreak at the rural hospital he was working at but that he was negative and quarantining until December 14, 2020, and that he would return the vehicle after his quarantine expired.

9. On December 16, 2020, Hertz charged his account around \$3,500.

10. On or around December 18, 2020, at around 5 pm, Dr. Usude was driving back into Santa Clarita to return the vehicle. He had been driving for 7 hours back from the hospital.

11. As he pulled into town he noticed a police officer following him. When he pulled onto Soledad Canyon Road, the officer flipped his lights on. Dr. Usude immediately pulled into the right lane to let the officer pass, at which point the officer told him over a loudspeaker to pull over the car. He then pulled into a side street.

12. At this point 7 to 8 squad cars cornered him. He was ordered out of the car by loudspeaker. Many guns were pointed at him. He was told to walk three steps backwards. The police then put him on his knees, made him lie on the ground, and then cuffed him as he lay there terrified.

13. He was scared for his life and fearful of making a wrong move given that he had been in the car for such a long time and did not have his bearings.

14. The police then locked him in the back of squad car handcuffed. The cuffs dug into his skin. His wrists were severely bruised because of the handcuffs.

15. He told the police the car was not stolen. He brought out his phone and showed them the payment and the communication with Hertz. The police said there was nothing they could do.

16. They then took him to the station for booking. He sat there for an hour until they

put him into a cell with a drunk driver.

17. He was kept overnight until being released. He was incredulous when given the court summons, which said he was being charged with felony embezzlement. Not only did Hertz know the car was not stolen, but they had charged him \$3,500 just days before. He believes that he was charged in total over \$7,000 for the rental.

18. The summons told him to appear in court on or before January 15, 2021.

19. However, when Dr. Usude called the number given, no one had any record of his case at the court. He spent considerable time trying to figure out what happened, but no one had any explanation.

20. He has no idea to this day if he is still being prosecuted, or whether there is another warrant out for his arrest. The entire experience has been a nightmare.

21. Based on Dr. Usude's communications with Hertz, Hertz is well aware the theft report it filed was false.

22. Dr. Usude did not know about any bar date and did not know about any bankruptcy plan. He does not regularly read *USA Today*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *The Globe and Mail*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Arizona Republic*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The San Diego Union Tribune*, *Naples Daily News*, *El Diario De El Paso*, or *Journal De Montreal*.

23. As a direct and proximate result of Hertz's conduct, Dr. Usude was falsely reported for theft, arrested at gunpoint, jailed for 2 days, falsely prosecuted and has been severely emotionally and mentally harmed.

24. There was no probable cause for Hertz to report Dr. Usude for any crime at any point in time.

I declare under the penalty of perjury of the United States of America that the foregoing  
is true and correct.

Dated: NOVEMBER 30, 2021

/s/ [Signature]  
Declarant