United States Patent [19]

US005465079A

Bouchard et al.

[54] METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING DRIVER FITNESS IN REAL TIME

- [75] Inventors: Paul J. Bouchard, San Diego; Jerry D. Woll, Poway; Bryan D. Woll, Laguna Niguel; Jimmie R. Asbury, San Diego, all of Calif.
- [73] Assignee: Vorad Safety Systems, Inc., San Diego, Calif.
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- Aug. 13, 1993 [22] Filed:

Related U.S. Application Data

- [63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 930,066, Aug. 14, 1992, Pat. No. 5,302,956, and a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 930,158, Aug. 14, 1992, abandoned.
- U.S. Cl. 340/576; 180/272; 340/425.5; [52] 340/439
- Field of Search [58] 340/425.5; 180/272

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Nov. 7, 1995 **Date of Patent:** [45]

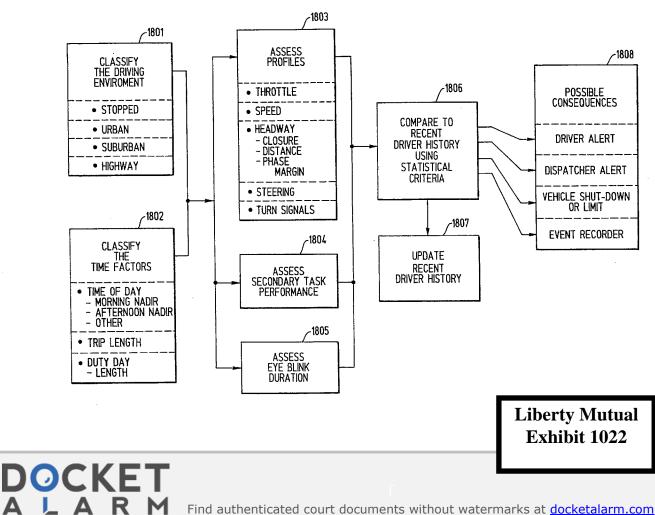
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Primary Examiner-Glen Swann Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Baker, Maxham, Jester & Meador

ABSTRACT [57]

A method and apparatus for evaluating a driver's performance under actual real-time conditions and for using such evaluations to determine the driver's ability to safely operate a vehicle compares the information gathered by a radar system and other sensors with information previously stored in an event recording device. Conditions monitored are used to make a determination as to whether the driver is performing in conformity with normal driving standards and the driver's own past performance. The driver's performance is constantly monitored and compared to that driver's past performance to determine whether the driver's present performance is impaired, and if so, whether the impairment is detrimental to the driver's ability to safely operate the vehicle.

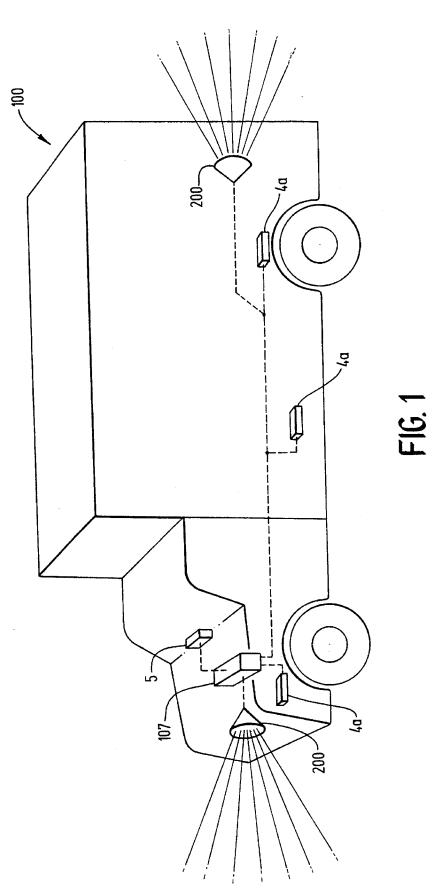
7 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets



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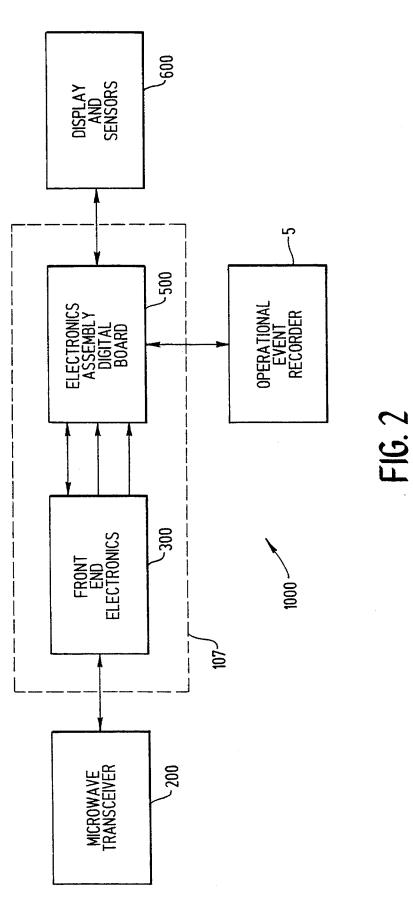
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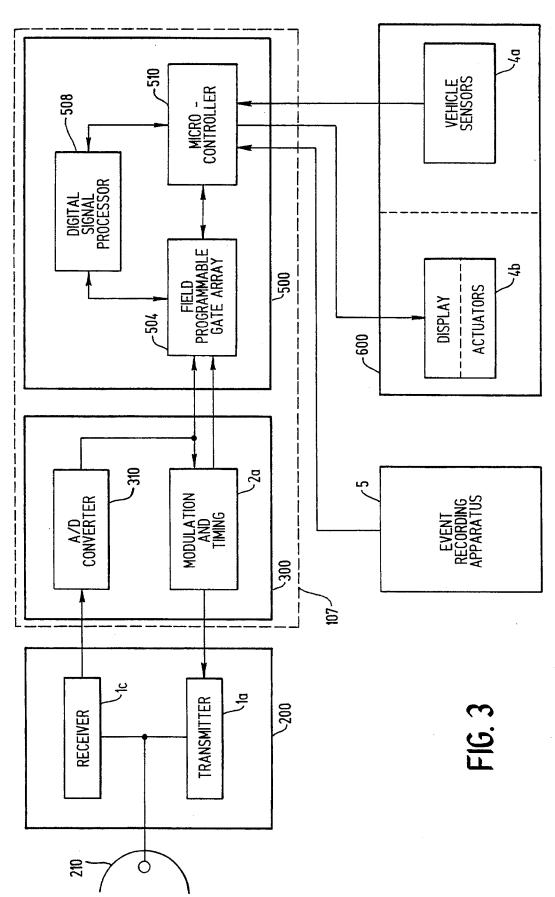
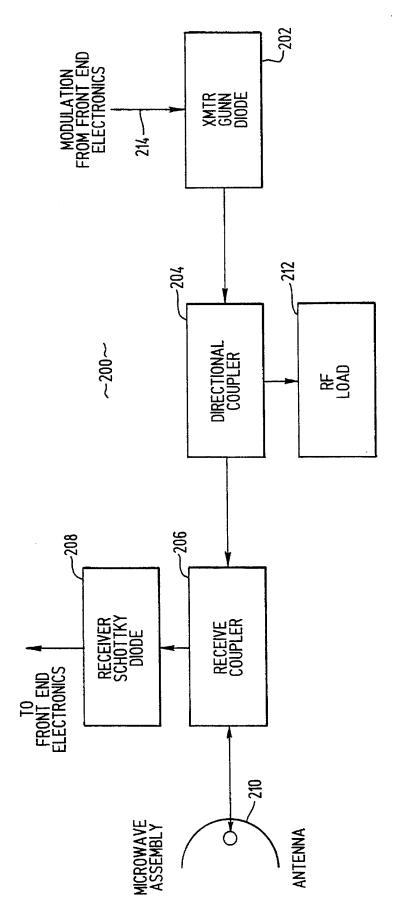


FIG. 4



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