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# United States Patent [19]

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Christofaro et al.

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[54] **VEHICULAR SKID PLATE AND CROSS MEMBER ASSEMBLY**

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[58] Field of Search ..... 296/204, 205, 296/29, 901; 180/69.1

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## [57] ABSTRACT

A skid plate and cross member assembly for a vehicular frame includes a skid plate having a platform and a cross member having a body. A locking element, preferably having holes or slots, is formed in the body of the cross member. A moldable material in a moldable state is placed in a mold for the skid plate. The cross member is pressed into the moldable platform of the skid plate so that the locking element is immersed and the moldable material fills the voids of the locking element. After the moldable material has cured, the cross member is interlocked with the skid plate to form a lightweight skid plate and cross member assembly. This assembly is secured to side rails of a vehicular frame to protect lower components of a vehicle.

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**18 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**

