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Petty

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- (54) **RELEASABLE WINDOW GUARD**
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- (52) **U.S. Cl.** **49/56**; 49/394; 49/67
- (58) **Field of Search** 49/56, 394, 50, 49/61, 63, 67, 504, 505, 463; 292/DIG. 20, 24, 57, 95, 130, 183; 52/202, 203, 204.51

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A quick release security grating is coupled to a retention frame by a hinge assembly which permits swinging movement from a closed position preventing intrusion through the window opening to an open position allowing emergency exit of an occupant through the window opening. The security grating is held in the closed position by a quick release latch assembly which is locked by an actuator arm urged by the force of gravity into locking engagement with a latch receiver. The actuator arm includes a handle which is concealed behind the retention frame when the security grating is in the closed position, making the handle immediately accessible to an occupant inside the building structure and hiding it from an intruder. A utility hook is attached to the handle and overlaps the window opening at an easy-to-find location relative to the window opening when the security grating is closed and the actuator arm is in the locked position. The utility hook serves as a reference point for quickly locating the handle to release the latch for emergency exit during hours of darkness or when the room is filled with smoke under zero visibility conditions.

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15 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

