

Discouragement from a California Inventor The Martin Nguyen Story

It would certainly be a great idea. A system in cars to warn you that a collision is imminent. Such a system would reduce accidents, injuries and save lives.

That's the thought Martin Nguyen, of Orange County, CA had in 2002 after he was hit by a drunken driver. If he had somehow been warned, he may have avoided colliding with the other vehicle.

Martin is an entrepreneur, a research engineer and has extensive knowledge in radio frequency. Although he was not seriously hurt in the accident it did get him to thinking about developing a radio-frequency based collision avoidance system for cars. So, that is just what he set out to do. After years of research and testing **he developed a wireless vehicle monitoring system** and received a patent for his idea. It was patent #7333012. and Martin was proud of it.

That's a nice story. But this is where the nice story ends. **Infringers suddenly came out of the woodwork** and took the germ of his idea, replicated it and renamed it. You now know it as an anti-collision warning system and chances are it is in a car or truck you drive. Brought to you, of course, by a **large infringing corporate company**.

How did the rug get pulled out from under Martin's feet? Very simple. It is because of our weak patent system and the inability of inventors, like Martin, who don't have the deep financial pockets to fight for their rights.

When Martin realized that others had ripped off his patent he became discouraged by the system, specifically **because the Patents Trial & Appeal Board (PTAB) and the courts rule many patent invalid**. "You try to fight to protect the rights to your invention, to your patent... but the courts say no, your patent is not valid and so the infringers happily go on their infringing ways," Martin said. "I didn't have the money to fight it, so I had to walk away."

Of course, we have heard this kind of story before. Martin is just one of thousands of inventors and entrepreneurs who have seen their dreams dashed and their ideas stolen because of a patent system that needs immediate reform.

Feel free to reach out to Martin to hear more of his story: martin7277027@gmail.com