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(71) Applicant: **SPECIALIZED HEALTH PRODUCTS, INC.** [US/US]; 585 West 500 South, Suite 200, Bountiful, UT 84010-8321 (US).

(72) Inventors: **FERGUSON, F. Mark**; 585 West 500 South, Bountiful, UT 84010-8321 (US). **SNOW, Jeremy**; 585 West 500 South, Bountiful, Utah 84010-8321 (US). **BARRUS, Roy**; 585 West 500 South, Bountiful, UT 84010-8321 (US). **SMITH, Daniel**; 585 West 500 South, Bountiful, UT 84010-8321 (US). **THORNE, David**; 585 West 500 South, Bountiful, UT 84010-8321 (US). **BAGLEY, Chance**; 585 West 500 South, Bountiful, UT 84010-8321 (US). **SOLOMON, Donald**; 585 West 500 South, Bountiful, UT 84010-8321 (US).

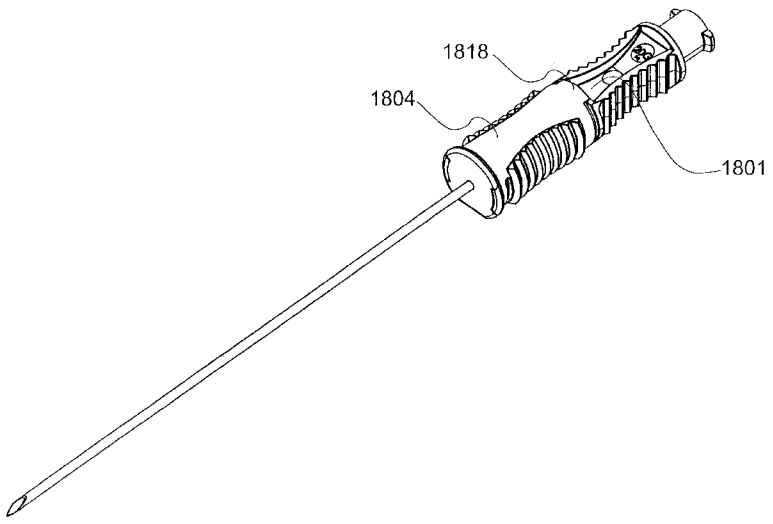
(74) Agent: **EVANS, Paul S.**; 585 West 500 South, Bountiful, UT 84010-8321 (US).

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(54) Title: SAFETY SHIELD FOR MEDICAL NEEDLES



(57) Abstract: A medical needle shield apparatus is provided that includes a needle hub having an outer needle cannula extending therefrom. An inner needle is disposed for slidable movement with the outer needle cannula. At least one shield is extensible from a retracted position to an extended position to enclose a distal end of the inner needle. The shield includes a binding member disposed within the shield and defines binding surfaces that form an aperture configured for slidable receipt of the inner needle. The binding member includes at least one drag inducing member that engages the inner needle during slidable receipt to create a drag force. The drag force facilitates rotation of the binding member such that the binding surfaces engage the inner needle to prevent slidable movement. The binding member further includes a needle communicating surface extending therefrom that engages the inner needle to prevent rotation of the binding member.

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