



# Florida Police Chiefs Association

*Quality Law Enforcement for the Sunshine State*

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## **FLORIDA POLICE CHIEFS ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO CHECK VEHICLE AIRBAG RECALLS**

Tallahassee, Fla. - The Florida Police Chiefs Association today issued a consumer advisory encouraging Floridians to check whether their vehicles are affected by a recent recall of defective airbag inflators. A national recall of Takata airbag inflators may affect more than 32 million vehicles, and according to National Highway Traffic Safety Administrator Mark Rosekind, Florida drivers are particularly at risk from the defective air bags.

“Florida drivers need to take immediate action to check their vehicles against the list of vehicles affected by this recall,” said Winter Park Police Chief Bret Railey, President of the Florida Police Chiefs Association. “As police chiefs, our job is to protect and inform our communities, and this threat should not be taken lightly.”

In May, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced that airbag manufacturer Takata had agreed to a national recall of certain types of airbag inflators. These inflators were made with a propellant that can degrade over time when exposed to moisture, such as high humidity. The degraded propellant ignites too quickly, producing excess pressure that causes the inflator to rupture and sends metal shards into the passenger cabin. This can lead to serious injury or death.

Tests being conducted indicate that 70-80 percent of the defective airbags are coming from Florida, because of the state’s high humidity and moisture levels. Florida drivers should immediately check the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s list of all makes and models affected by the Takata airbag recalls. Consumers can search by their vehicles’ VIN or by the vehicles’ year, make and model at <https://vinrcl.safercar.gov/vin/>.

Updates on this developing recall are available at: <http://www.safercar.gov/rs/takata>.

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*The FPCA is the third largest state police chiefs association in the nation and is composed of more than 900 of the state's top law enforcement executives. FPCA serves municipal police departments, airport police, college and university police, private business and security firms, as well as federal, state and county law enforcement agencies. The FPCA has members representing every region of the state.*