

## **NHTSA Issues Urgent Warning on Takata Air Bags After Another Fatality**

Person killed by a ruptured Takata air bag inflator in Ford Ranger under a “do not drive” warning; check and repair Takata recalls now

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The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration calls on everyone to check NOW for open recalls after another Takata fatality. NHTSA is issuing this urgent warning after one person was killed after a crash in a 2006 Ford Ranger where the Takata driver’s side air bag inflator ruptured. The vehicle was already under a [“do not drive” warning](#).

Additionally, NHTSA is aware of other suspected inflator ruptures in vehicles from other automakers potentially due to exploding Takata air bags.

NHTSA is urging ALL vehicle owners to immediately [check to see if their vehicle has an open Takata air bag recall](#). If it does, owners need to contact their dealership to schedule a FREE repair as soon as possible and follow any warnings from the vehicle manufacturer.

“We need everyone to check right now for open Takata recalls – and if you have one, to schedule an appointment at your dealership immediately for a repair,” said NHTSA Acting Administrator Ann Carlson. “Every day that passes when you don’t get a recalled air bag replaced puts you and your family at greater risk of injury or death. Don’t let an open recall cost you or your passengers your lives.”

Even minor crashes can result in exploding air bags that can kill or produce life-altering injuries. Older model year vehicles put their occupants at higher risk, as the age of the air bag is one of the contributing factors.

For Takata-specific information from vehicle manufacturers, please [click here](#). For more information from NHTSA on the Takata air bag safety recall, please [click here](#).

### **How to Check for Recalls**

- Use NHTSA’s Recalls Lookup [Tool](#) to check your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) for any open safety recalls, including the urgent Takata recall.
- Download our [SaferCar app](#) and let it check automatically for you.
- If your vehicle does have a safety recall, call your automaker’s local dealer to schedule the free recall repair.
- Sign up at [NHTSA.gov/Alerts](#) to be notified by email if your vehicle is affected by a future recall.

If you think your vehicle may have a safety defect that isn’t part of a current recall, contact NHTSA. Contact NHTSA online or by calling the agency’s Vehicle Safety Hotline at [888-327-4236](#), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET. For more information, visit [NHTSA.gov/Recalls](#).

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