

Statement from American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
*Re: Confirmed Fatality Related to the Rupture of a Takata Airbag Inflator
in Los Angeles, CA on September 7, 2014*

June 19, 2015

American Honda has confirmed that the Takata driver's airbag inflator ruptured in the crash of a 2001 Honda Civic on September 7, 2014 in Los Angeles, CA. The airbag inflator rupture that occurred during this crash resulted in the death of the driver, Ms. Jewel Brangman. Our deepest sympathies and condolences are with the Brangman family.

Honda is currently in communication with representatives of the family in an effort to address their concerns.

Honda has communicated information collected to date about this crash to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

The vehicle involved in this crash was issued a salvage title in California in October 2011 and subsequently transferred ownership through an automobile auction to the current registered owner, a rental car agency in San Diego, CA, in November 2011. The vehicle was rented to Ms. Brangman in August 2014 by the current registered owner.

Although Honda records show that no recall repair was ever completed, this vehicle has been eligible for replacement of the Takata driver's front airbag inflator at all times since a July 2009 recall. Four mailed notifications of the July 2009 recall were sent to registered owners of this vehicle starting in August 2009.

This vehicle was also included in an April 2013 recall affecting Takata passenger front airbag inflators, and initial mailed notification of that action was sent to the current registered owner on June 6, 2013. Honda records also indicate that the required repair, replacement of the Takata passenger's front airbag inflator, was never completed.

The unrepaired vehicle subsequently transitioned into two Safety Improvement Campaigns announced in June 2014 related to both the front driver and passenger airbag inflators, and the crash occurred before initial mailed notifications began under those actions in September 2014.

[Note to the Media: Please include the following as you report this story – Thank You!]

American Honda continues to urge owners of Honda and Acura vehicles affected by the Takata airbag inflator recalls to get their vehicles repaired at authorized dealers as soon as possible. Vehicle owners can check their vehicles' recall status at www.recalls.honda.com for Honda owners or www.recalls.acura.com for Acura owners or by calling their authorized dealer.