



February 2015

YOU SHOULD KNOW

IN THIS ISSUE

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- [Year of the Recall >](#)
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- [Free Accident Guide >](#)



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Dear Jessica,

Last year, automakers recalled a record number of cars for serious safety defects. Sadly, it was too late for far too many Americans injured or killed because of these defects. Here's a look at the latest on recalls and road safety.



THE DOCKET /

[> CHECK OUT OUR BETTER HEALTH CARE NEWSLETTER.](#)

Check to See If Your Car Is on the List

Auto Safety Crisis Spurs Record Year of Recalls

A decade-long ignition-switch defect in millions of General Motors vehicles helped launch a record 2014 for automakers for all the wrong reasons. Auto companies issued more recalls involving older models than ever before, covering 60 million vehicles. That adds up to roughly 700 recall announcements in total – an average of two a day – affecting one in five vehicles currently on the road.

This month's *You Should Know* summarizes the latest problems, the vehicles affected and where you can go to check for recalls on your car or truck.

Mistakes, defects cost lives. >>>



***The New York Times* exposes missteps, delays and deadly defects during a record year of automobile recalls.**

BY THE NUMBERS /

\$175 Million

A federal jury awarded \$175 million to a whistle-blower who questioned the safety of thousands of Trinity guardrail end caps that may be impaling cars instead of slowing them down safely.

Ten different automakers were listed in an October 2014 [recall notice](#) to replace defective Takata air bags,

> LATEST NEWS FROM OUR PATIENT SAFETY BLOG

> CHILD SAFETY TIPS AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION FROM OUR CHILD PROTECTION BLOG

> MALPRACTICE A-Z: ANSWERS ON SPECIFIC TOPICS

10 Makers

which have claimed five lives so far. A second [urgent recall](#) was also issued in January 2015.

60 Million

More than 60 million vehicles [were recalled](#) in the United States last year, double the previous record in 2004. GM, Honda and Chrysler each set corporate recall records.

BOOKMARK FAVORITES /



What the Takata Air Bag Recall Means for You

Almost eight million cars have now been recalled because of the potentially deadly Takata air bag defects. [Consumer Reports](#) explains the problem with step-by-step actions you should take now. [View video.](#)



Safety Advocate Takes On Guardrail Industry

Industry insider and safety advocate Joshua Harman talks with Bloomberg's Patrick Lee about a design flaw that causes highway guardrails to become deadly spears on impact. [View video.](#)



GM Ignition Switch Linked to Another Death

Jessica Taylor was driving home for Labor Day when her car left the road and flipped several times. Evidence surfaced last year that linked her car to the GM ignition switch failure that has already claimed 13 lives. [View video.](#)



Driven to Safety: A Search for Truth

Many deadly design flaws are uncovered only after the injured and their families take on auto manufacturers in a search for truth, as chronicled in this special report from the American Association for Justice.

[Download report](#)



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