



National Campaign to Stop Red Light Running

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Red Light Running Survivors Tell Their Stories in Advance of *National Stop on Red Week*

*Special Issue of Safety Focus Newsletter Devoted to
Red Light Running Victims & Survivors*

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WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 9, 2009) — In advance of National Stop on Red Week (August 2–8), the National Campaign to Stop Red Light Running is pleased to present a special issue of our newsletter, *Safety Focus*, written by 13 red light running survivors and dedicated to all red light running victims, survivors and their families and friends.

Since its founding in 2001, red light running survivors from across the country have contacted the Campaign. Some simply want to tell their story. Others want tougher penalties and enforcement. Almost all want to be a part of an organization that focuses on publicizing and preventing the kind of crashes that have had such a horrific impact on their lives.

Written by red light running survivors from Minnesota, New Jersey, Arizona, Florida, Texas, Michigan, Washington and Indiana, the stories are heartbreaking, but they are not offered in an attempt to play on emotions. They are presented to show the living flesh and breath behind the cold statistics of traffic crashes.

As National Campaign and Survivor Spokesperson Ann Sweet wrote, survivors tell their stories “to make others aware of the extreme danger at intersections and the need to decrease the number of families facing the same misery from which my family will never recover.”

In 2007, red light running resulted in more than 153,000 injuries and 900 fatalities in the United States.

“Because National Stop on Red Week is dedicated to educating Americans about the dangers of running red lights, we thought it was appropriate to let survivors tell, in their own words, how their lives have been shattered by this deadly driving behavior,” said Leslie Blakey, executive director of the National Campaign to Stop Red Light Running. “We thank these survivors for their contributions.”

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The National Campaign to Stop Red Light Running, headquartered in Washington, DC, is dedicated to reducing the incidences of red light running in the United States and the fatalities and injuries it causes. The campaign has assembled a team of leaders from the fields of law enforcement, transportation engineering, healthcare and emergency medicine, and traffic safety,