

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



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Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VEHICLE OWNERS URGED TO ‘CHECK YOUR AIR BAGS’

~Take the Time to Protect Yourself and Your Family~

OKALOOSA COUNTY, FL – The Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County (DOH-Okaloosa) is urging vehicle owners to check their air bags. Takata, a Japanese company, has recalled more than 34 million air bags globally. Recalled air bags are experiencing rupturing inflators, producing high-speed metal fragments that can cause serious injuries. Florida drivers are especially at risk due to the high humidity and heat affecting the airbags.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is overseeing the recall and estimates about 70 percent of faulty inflators in the United States have come from cars in Florida.

“Florida residents should ensure driver safety by routinely checking with their manufacturer for recalls,” stated Dr. Karen Chapman, Director of DOH-Okaloosa. “Having faulty air bags can put you or your family in a dangerous situation. If you receive a recall notice in the mail, don’t ignore it. Follow the directions immediately.”

Drivers are urged to visit www.safercar.gov to see a list of the vehicle models with airbag recalls. Federal officials say drivers should go to a dealer immediately for a replacement, if necessary.

The Department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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