

## Howell, Rosa (NHTSA)

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**From:** Hershman, Larry (NHTSA)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2010 10:18 AM  
**To:** Howell, Rosa (NHTSA)  
**Subject:** FW: FARS Case 45884, December 17, 2003, 2002 Jeep Grand Cherokee, Johns Island SC, Fire Not Recorded in FARS

Rosa,  
Please place the email below in the public repository for DP09005, Jeep Grand Cherokee.  
Thanks,  
Larry

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**From:** Clarence Ditlow [<mailto:cmdiii@autosafety.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 16, 2010 3:37 PM  
**To:** Chidester, Chip (NHTSA)  
**Cc:** Amoni, Marilena (NHTSA); Boyd, Richard (NHTSA); Yon, Scott (NHTSA); Hershman, Larry (NHTSA); Medford, Ronald (NHTSA); [KDIGGES@aol.com](mailto:KDIGGES@aol.com)  
**Subject:** FARS Case 45884, December 17, 2003, 2002 Jeep Grand Cherokee, Johns Island SC, Fire Not Recorded in FARS

Chip

Would you look into why the above case is not listed as having a fire in FARS. I have in front of me the certificate of death listing CO Toxicity and Thermal Injury as the immediate cause of death along with a letter from Norman Hartsel describing the crash and resulting fire which resulted in the death of his son Bennett. I am not enclosing the correspondence only because it was also sent to NHTSA's regional office in Atlanta on September 12, 2010.

As we have discussed over the years, the failure of FARS to record fire deaths undermines the ability of the agency to set adequately protective safety standards and obtain safety recalls.

I look forward to your response.

Clarence

PS As you may recall, the Bartholomew death which was also not listed as a fire crash occurred in South Carolina.

Clarence Ditlow  
Executive Director  
Center for Auto Safety  
1825 Connecticut Ave NW  
Washington DC 20009