



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: DP 11-001
Prompted by: Defect Petition
Date Opened: 04/07/2011
Investigator: Michael Lee
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Frontal Air Bag Non-deployment

Date Closed: 08/19/2011
Reviewer: Scott Yon

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION
Products: MY 2008 Toyota Corolla
Population: 170,356

Problem Description: Non-deployment of the frontal air bags in a crash allegedly severe enough to induce an air bag deployment.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

| | ODI | Manufacturer | Total |
|----------------------------|-----|--------------|-------|
| Complaints: | 10 | UNK | 10 |
| Crashes/Fires: | 10 | UNK | 10 |
| Injury Incidents: | 3 | UNK | 3 |
| Number of Injuries: | 5 | UNK | 5 |
| Fatality Incidents: | 0 | UNK | 0 |
| Other*: | 1 | UNK | 1 |

***Description of Other:** Defect petition. Manufacturer reports were not obtained and therefore are unknown.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: The petition is denied.

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) received a defect petition requesting that it open an investigation of model year (MY) 2008 Toyota Corolla vehicles for the failure of the frontal air bags to deploy during an alleged serious crash. The petitioner alleges that the frontal air bags in their MY 2008 Corolla failed to deploy during a 55-mph frontal impact with a large animal (a deer). The petitioner also filed a complaint with the agency (see ODI 10327470 for further details of the incident and the petition submitted to the agency).

ODI has reviewed the petition, assessed consumer complaints on the MY 2008 Toyota Corolla and similar vehicles, analyzed statistics derived from NHTSA's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) and its National Automotive Sampling System (NASS), and evaluated crash tests of the subject vehicles.

Based on its review, ODI does not believe that a safety-related defect trend currently exists for air bag non-deployment in the subject vehicles. Therefore, in view of the need to allocate and prioritize NHTSA's limited resources to accomplish the agency's safety mission, the petition is denied. However, the agency will continue to monitor this event and will take further action if warranted by changing future circumstances.

For more information, see the Federal Register notice in the DP11-001 file (www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/defects).