



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** DP 15-004  
**Prompted by:** Defect Petition  
**Date Opened:** 06/11/2015  
**Investigator:** Michael Lee  
**Approver:** Stephen Ridella  
**Subject:** Rollover Side Curtain Air Bags

**Date Closed:** 03/07/2017  
**Reviewer:** Scott Yon

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** General Motors LLC  
**Products:** 2010 Chevrolet Tahoe  
**Population:** 58,262

**Problem Description:** Petitioner alleges vehicle occupants may allegedly be ejected during rollover crashes despite the deployment of rollover side curtain air bags.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	1	0	1
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	1	0	1
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	1	0	1
<b>Number of Fatalities:</b>	1	0	1
<b>Other*:</b>	1	0	1

\*Description of Other: Early Warning Reporting data

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** This Defect Petition is denied.

### Summary:

In June 2015, the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) opened this Defect Petition in response to a petition (see ODI 10568388) requesting a defect investigation of several alleged defects that can cause occupant ejections during rollover crashes in certain General Motors vehicles. The petition focused on a 2011 Texas crash involving a model year 2010 Chevrolet Tahoe, which allegedly resulted in multiple occupants to be ejected. One of the ejected occupants was fatally injured.

In assessing the petitioner's request, ODI reviewed information from the petitioner, technical information related to rollover side curtain air bags from General Motors (note: ODI did not request GM's field incident data), NHTSA's prior testing and evaluation work related to FMVSS No. 226 "Ejection Mitigation," and potentially relevant reports in the NHTSA complaint and crash databases.

Based on the information available at the present time, NHTSA does not believe that a safety-related defect currently exists in the design of the rollover side curtain air bags in the model year 2010 Chevrolet Tahoe and other similarly designed Tahoe and Yukon vehicles. Therefore, the petition is denied. However, the agency will take further action if warranted by changing future circumstances. The official petition denial, as published in the Federal Register, is available in the document file for this petition.