

Dear President Obama:

After losing two daughters, AnnaLeah (17) and Mary (13) in a truck underride crash on May 4, 2013, the Karth family took over 11,000 envelopes with signed petitions from the ***AnnaLeah & Mary Stand Up For Truck Safety*** Care2 Petition to Washington, DC, one year later on May 5, 2014. At that time, they met with administrators from FMCSA and NHTSA and discussed, at length, their concerns about truck safety issues.

Since that time, they have set up a non-profit, ***AnnaLeah & Mary for Truck Safety***, to promote highway safety research and federal regulations to protect motorists, pedestrians, & cyclists. And, in fact, there has been some progress with the issuing of a final rule for Electronic Logging Devices and the initiation of rulemaking steps related to underride guards and minimum liability insurance for truck companies.

However, we are concerned that these safety measures, as well as others, are being unnecessarily delayed and/or weakened by the restrictions placed upon the rulemaking process by President Clinton's Executive Order 12866. As you know, the Department of Transportation makes highway safety rules based upon how much safety measures will cost. Instead, we want to establish a U.S. **Vision Zero** goal and move toward Zero Deaths, Zero Injuries, Zero Fear of Traffic.

One of the biggest challenges to making change is the cost/benefit analysis. On the one side there are lives to be saved and on the other side there are companies working to make money. The trick is to try and meet everyone's needs. The solution has to be effective in saving lives while still being affordable for companies so that they can make the changes necessary without a lot of struggle.

The problem comes in when human life and health get the short end of the stick. The result is that many safety measures are blocked because they would cost more to implement than the "worth" of the "small" number of human lives which would be saved. That's just not right.

Therefore we are asking you to write an Executive Order which would set a Vision Zero goal for our country. This EO will pave the way for stronger safety measures to be established in a more timely manner; saved lives will be a higher priority than saved dollars.

This Executive Order should also provide DOT with resources and authority to hold appropriate parties responsible for implementing the rules, as well as hold them accountable to meet performance outcomes which ensure human life and health. Furthermore, the Executive Order should include a requirement for annual progress reports.

On average, 33,000 people die each year in crashes on our roads. Our families cannot continue to sustain this unacceptably high number of losses and injuries. We urge you to take immediate action so that more lives will not be lost and to assure us that safety is your number one priority.

Sincerely,

(Your signature will be emailed directly to Obama, as well as delivered to DC by the Karth family.)