

In the aftermath of our crash, our family learned that hundreds of people die every year from underride. We learned about the IIHS crash testing. Jerry wrote letters to manufacturers & transport companies alerting them to that research.

With the Truck Safety Coalition and IIHS, we organized 2 underride roundtables and later worked with Lois Durso-Hawkins to draft the ***STOP Underrides Bill***.

In 2016, I envisioned an Underride Protection Committee -- composed of diverse stakeholders -- who could collaborate to shape the underride rulemaking process. You can help us realize that goal.

Text from the ***STOP Underrides Bill*** (S.665/HR.1511):

#### SEC. 6. COMMITTEE ON UNDERRIDE PROTECTION.

(a) Establishment.—The Secretary of Transportation shall establish the Committee on Underride Protection (referred to in this section as the “Committee”) to oversee the ongoing underride rulemaking process.

(b) Representation.—The Committee shall be composed of—

(1) 1 representative of truck manufacturers;

(2) 1 representative of trailer manufacturers;

(3) 1 roadside inspector;

(4) 1 motor vehicle engineer, who shall be a technician who works on motor vehicle safety improvements;

(5) 1 motor vehicle crash reconstructionist;

(6) 2 representatives of consumer-oriented traffic safety organizations;

(7) 1 representative of the truck and auto insurance industry;

(8) 1 law enforcement crash investigator;

(9) 1 emergency medical service provider;

(10) 1 public health or injury prevention professional; and

(11) at least 4 people whose families

have been impacted by an underride crash.

(c) Meetings.—The Committee shall meet—

(1) until the final rules have been issued pursuant to section 30129 of title 49, United States Code (as added by section 4 (a))—

(A) monthly, via conference call; and

(B) quarterly, in person, at the Department of Transportation headquarters; and

(2) subsequent to the issuance of the final rules described in paragraph (1), annually, at the Department of Transportation headquarters, to assess the status of underride crash protection.

(d) Annual Report.—The Committee shall submit an annual report to the appropriate congressional committees that describes the progress made by the Secretary of Transportation in meeting the rulemaking deadlines set forth in section 30129 of title 49, United States Code (as added by section

#### The Best Possible Protection

**“It is anticipated that the proposed Standard will be amended, after technical studies have been completed, to extend the requirement for underride protection to the sides of large vehicles.”**

Federal Register, Vol. 34, No. 53 —  
Wednesday, **March 19, 1969**

#### The Best Possible Protection

# Underride Protection Committee

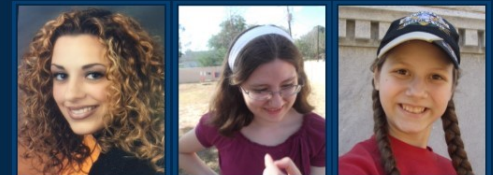
**A Collaborative Effort To Reach Our Goal:**

**Make Truck Crashes More Survivable**



[annaleahmary.com](http://annaleahmary.com)

[stopunderrides.org](http://stopunderrides.org)



Their deaths were preventable.

[marianne@annaleahmary.com](mailto:marianne@annaleahmary.com)

Please review the Underride Protection Committee (UPC) subcommittees and their proposed objectives. Make a selection of 1-3 subcommittees in which you would be interested in participating.

Send an email to **mari-anne@annaleahmary.com** with your selections numbered in order of priority.

We will contact you and find out your availability for Zoom meetings for each of the subcommittees in the coming month. We view these as working groups which will devote themselves to accomplishing specific tasks.

We are aiming to set up another Zoom meeting for all interested parties — likely in July — to allow each of the subcommittees to report on their progress.

The first project which the Underride Protection Committee will undertake is to develop a **Consensus Side Guard Standard**. When that has been accomplished, then individuals and organizations will be invited to sign a Letter of Support.



Would YOUR car fit under a truck?  
**STOPunderrides.org**

### Proposed Subcommittees of the Underride Protection Committee

Meet Monthly Via Zoom Meetings: Please submit meeting minutes and project plans to Marianne Karth.  
Report Back to the Underride Protection Committee in Quarterly Meetings

Subcommittee Title	Objectives (what to achieve in next 3-6 mos. could include these)
Advocacy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organize opportunities to communicate with appropriate Congressional staff and leaders regarding underride legislation and rulemaking.</li> <li>2. Identify ways to catalyze significant federal agency action to address underride rulemaking in a timely manner.</li> <li>3. Arrange for meetings with DOT Secretary and Administrators to discuss this information and submit a petition for supplemental underride rulemaking based on cost benefit analysis that is aligned with the Department's Vision of <a href="#">Toward Zero Deaths</a>: <i>The zero deaths vision acknowledges that even one death on our transportation system is unacceptable, and NHTSA's <a href="#">Mission Statement</a>: Save lives, prevent injuries and reduce economic costs due to road traffic crashes, through education, research, safety standards and enforcement activity.</i></li> <li>4. Identify legislative strategies.</li> </ol>
Engineering	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the side guard standard as written in the STOP Underrides Bill.</li> <li>2. Discuss and debate the details of the standard in order to develop a <b>Consensus Side Guard Standard</b>.</li> <li>3. Identify requirements and timeline for manufacturing industry to move forward with production of side guards.</li> <li>4. Identify and implement ways to engage manufacturers and vendors in this process.</li> </ol>
Industry Engagement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify and implement opportunities for involving industry in pilot programs.</li> <li>2. Identify and implement opportunities for encouraging voluntary and early adoption through the <a href="#">SaferTruck Award Program</a>, including identification of carriers who are innovators in safety and providing them with information and motivation to purchase SaferTrucks.</li> <li>3. Identify other means of fostering industry support of underride protection, including organization of a Zoom meeting with carrier CEOs &amp;/or Fleet Managers.</li> <li>4. Create a Letter of Support for the <b>Consensus Side Guard Standard</b> and seek signatures from individuals and organizations supportive of the goal to stop underrides.</li> <li>5. Share the <b>Consensus Side Guard Standard</b> (including the Letter of Support) with transport companies.</li> </ol>
Raising Underride Awareness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss strategies to raise public awareness of underride.</li> <li>2. Prioritize goals and develop action plans to meet those goals.</li> <li>3. Set goals and develop action plans to raise awareness with and gain support of law enforcement.</li> <li>4. Organize a project to identify and creatively document at least one underride story/state.</li> </ol>
Research	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop an appropriate underride cost benefit analysis formula.</li> <li>2. Obtain a copy of the CBA formula used by NHTSA for past underride regulatory analysis.</li> <li>3. Obtain a copy of the Volpe/FMCSA <a href="#">Study of Truck Side Guards to Reduce Pedestrian Fatalities</a>.</li> <li>4. Identify strategies for improving data on underride crashes, deaths, &amp; injuries.</li> <li>5. Survey of truck crashes with multiple passenger vehicle occupants. "It's not the crash that kills; it's the underride."</li> </ol>