

Sara's Law

Assembly Bill _____

Sara's Law, AB_____, is common-sense public safety legislation that will dramatically reduce the number of tragic unnecessary DUI deaths and injuries in California. We encourage you to vote YES on this bill, and do your part to save the lives of many innocent victims. The following material will undoubtedly portray an unpleasant situation that has been allowed to fester in California for far too long. The citizens you represent will support you in your decision to APPROVE AB_____.

Tracking statistical data on traffic accidents caused by illegal aliens is a daunting task. No governmental agency can ascertain how many deaths or serious injuries are caused by illegal alien drunk drivers because citizenship status statistics are not held by state prisons. While the [Federal Bureau of Prisons](#) tracks citizenship status of its inmate population, almost all felony DUI/DWI and vehicular manslaughter offenses are state crimes resulting in incarceration in state prisons. Like most states, the California Department of Justice and California Bureau of Prisons do not keep citizenship status data. Why this statistic is not a priority to individual states remains a question. One would logically assume that upon release of time-served, illegal alien offenders would be processed for deportation, relieving the state of the high possibility of repeat offenses. This logic, however, is not apparent to state justice systems.

Although there is no governmental data documenting illegal alien DUI/DWI, the anecdotal evidence suggests that illegal aliens are responsible for a disproportionate amount of the carnage. Some of the data we have provided relative to illegal alien DUI/DWI is extrapolated from the combination of data from the Federal Bureau of Prison statistics, combined with data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, NHTSA. As the NHTSA [reported](#), that nationally in 2005 there were 16,885 alcohol-related traffic fatalities and an estimated 254,000 persons were injured in crashes where police reported that alcohol was present. They also reported that the economic cost for traffic accidents in 2000 was \$230.6 Billion. It is estimated that the national illegal alien population is 5-6% of the total population. At 5%, illegal aliens are responsible for 844 deaths and 12,700 injuries by DUI per year. The Federal Bureau of Prisons, however, reports that the non-citizen inmate population is 27%, leading to the conclusion that illegal aliens are probably responsible for much greater numbers.

As a result of the absence of data by the government and the media, the stories that follow will provide a window into the faces and families of people recently killed in the United States by illegal alien drivers. We do not say "Americans killed" because illegal alien drivers are killing not only our citizens but other illegal aliens, tourists and themselves as well. This list is nowhere near a complete accounting of all the people being killed by illegal alien drivers, but it is provided to illustrate how serious the problem is because NO ONE else is keeping track or reporting on it.

The seven states with the highest rates of fatal hit-and-run crashes are also the seven states that have the most illegal immigrants, according to two think tanks. California ranks highest in the number of fatal hit-and-run accidents. According to [California Highway Patrol statistics](#), in 2005 21,152 hit-and-run accidents accounted for 340 deaths (9% of all fatal crashes) and 28,168 injuries. Russell Ahr, a spokesman for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Phoenix office, said "smugglers and illegal immigrants often leave the scene of a wreck to avoid being deported." To many traffic safety experts and insurance industry officials, there is at least circumstantial evidence that people illegally in the country contribute to the hit-and-run problem.

Merely suspending an offender's license is not the solution. James Frederikson, executive director of the Arizona Insurance Information Association, an industry-funded, nonprofit research group said, "There are people out there with a history of irresponsible driving. ... One of the things we know is that people who have their driver's license suspended continue to drive." Transportation researchers estimate that 30 percent to 70 percent of people with suspended or revoked licenses still get behind the wheel.

The following is a summary listing of just **some** of the collateral damage that the "victimless crime" of illegal immigration has caused on our highways over the last three years or so. Unfortunately there are many, many more similar tragedies that have been inflicted on our citizens, with only the family and friends left grieving...and forgotten. We will not forget them here.

This list will also contain information on people who have been seriously injured or maimed by illegal aliens in traffic accidents. Often these injuries are just as tragic and usually get little press. As an example, the accident that injured Los Gatos resident [Sara Cole](#) made local news for a few days but after three months of intensive care and over a dozen surgeries, Sara still faces the possibility of losing her left leg. Sara was standing at the rear of her vehicle unloading her son's bicycle when Lucio Rodriguez swerved off the road and slammed into her, crushing her legs between both bumpers. Three of Sara's four children were present to see the accident and watch her lie in a pool of blood, screaming as Rodriguez sped away from the scene. Rodriguez was apprehended five miles from the incident, so drunk that he could barely stand with a .16 BAL one hour after the incident. Rodriguez had been convicted earlier in the year of DUI and was driving on a suspended license. After three months of intensive care and over a dozen surgeries, Sara is now in a rehabilitation unit at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, AZ, a great distance from her four children. The future status of her physical condition is still uncertain, but without question, Sara faces years of rehabilitation and her life and her children's lives will never be the same again.

22 NOV 2007: [Carmelo Salas](#), 28, was charged with murder in the deaths of Stephanie Cervantez, 14, and her 4-year-old cousin, Jacklin Munguia-Herrera, for allegedly running a stop sign in East Oakland and crashing his Ford Expedition sport utility vehicle into a Ford Mustang carrying the victims about 7:20 p.m. Salas fled after the crash at 89th Avenue and D Street but was arrested early the next morning, police said. He was charged with murder under the theory of implied malice, which is defined as engaging in an unlawful act done in "conscious disregard" of the risk to human life, prosecutor Norbert Chu said. Salas told his nephew, who was in the SUV with him, that he wasn't afraid to die and that he would take his nephew with him, Chu said. Salas was going as fast as 80 mph in a 25-mph zone, and the nephew warned him seconds before impact that the Mustang was approaching, the

prosecutor said. Salas was also charged with two counts of assault by means likely to produce great bodily injury for hurting Jacklin's mother, Laura Herrera, 23, who was driving the Mustang, and Herrera's daughter, Evalyn Munguia, 3. Both Herrera and Munguia remain hospitalized in critical condition, authorities said. Salas was also charged with kidnapping his nephew to ride with him in the SUV, Chu said. The nephew feared for his safety because he knew Salas could be "volatile" when he was drinking, Chu said. Police said the nephew helped identify the suspect.

Police believe Salas was driving under the influence of alcohol at the time of the crash. But prosecutors didn't charge him with DUI because several hours elapsed before he was arrested, making it impossible to measure his blood-alcohol level when the accident happened.

Salas is also the subject of a hold by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement because he is in the United States illegally from Mexico, authorities said.

19 SEP 2007: Lazaro Andrade Lobaton, now 21, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for manslaughter in the death of [Brandon Haley](#), 31, a father of three who was riding his bicycle one Sunday morning on Arkansas 68 east of Siloam Springs. After striking Haley and causing fatal head injuries, Lobaton fled the scene and soon left the country for his native Mexico. He was captured in Alabama last November. A second felony charge of leaving the scene of a personal injury accident was filed against him. Lobaton admitted drinking several beers in the hours before the accident. He has no felony criminal history but was convicted once of driving while intoxicated. Riding with Haley that day was Roger Holroyd, who made a statement Wednesday before Lobaton in the courtroom of Benton County Circuit Judge David Clinger. "Witnessing the accident was the most terrifying moment of my life. I was riding so close to Brandon that I was splattered from head to toe with his blood," Holroyd said. "There is no way you can understand how scared and lonely I was after you abandoned us and left Brandon to die with me unable to help ... or the anguish in the voices of the people I had to call that morning."

06 JUN 2007: RALEIGH, N.C. – There is new information about a man accused of driving drunk and crashing into two cars Monday morning on I-40. Federal authorities say the driver, who first said he was Michael Delatorre, is really Ricardo Contreras. Immigration and Custom Enforcement officials say Contreras is in the country illegally, and that he had been picked up by ICE officials in California and deported twice in April of 2004. ICE officials have placed a detainer on him at the jail. Contreras made his first court appearance today. State Troopers say he was driving while impaired and crossed the median on I-40, slamming into two cars. The driver of one of those two cars, 54-yea-old [George Smith](#) of Cary died at the scene. Prosecutors say Contreras could face more charges. State Troopers say the SUV he was driving was stolen from the Charlotte area.

23 APR 2007: Dacus "Danny" Sims, 32, was hit and killed by hit and run driver Luciano Melendres, while he was walking crossing Albemarle Road in east Charlotte, NC. Melendres, an illegal immigrant, is charged with felony hit-and-run, driving while impaired, driving with a revoked license, driving without liability insurance and driving with fictitious tags. [.Melendres was just convicted the previous week on a DWI charge](#) from a March 16, 2006, incident. He was sentenced to probation, alcohol assessment and treatment and community service and was ordered to pay court costs and have a breathalyzer device installed on his vehicle. Police said they didn't find the device during an initial look inside. N.C. Rep. Sue Myrick, a proponent of immigration reform, says the only thing that would keep such illegal immigrants off the streets after drinking is to deport them once they're

convicted of DWI. "The point is it's an extra-large percentage of Hispanic illegal immigrants who have been doing this and it's very frustrating in our community," she said. WSOCTV, Charlotte, reported the story in [Illegal Immigrant Charged In Deadly East Charlotte Hit-And-Run.](#)

22 APR 2007: Nicole Allen, 21, was killed in Maryland Heights in the St Louis area, by drunk driving, illegal alien Pedro Santos, when his Lincoln Town Car slammed into the back of the Acura that Allen was riding in. The Acura's driver, Larry Lane, 24, suffered minor injuries. His front-seat passenger, Charles Miller, 28, had two cracked vertebrae. Santos was arrested about three hours after the crash, hiding in woods not far from the scene. Allen graduated in 2004 from Parkway North High School. She worked as a server at Red Robin restaurant and was a junior at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, studying photography, graphic design and art history.. This story was reported by [Kim Bell](#) in the ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH in [Drunk driving is suspected in crash that killed woman](#)

19 APR 2007: Joshua Evans, 15, was serious injured by an illegal alien in a hit and run accident in Springville, UT. The younger brother of the driver had been previously arrested for driving under the influence in an unrelated incident early that day. The driver, the older brother, was arrested without incident and confessed to hitting Evans and attempting to torch the car. He was charged with leaving the scene of an accident and obstruction of justice. The incident was reported by Jeremy Twitchell of the Deseret Morning News in [2 men arrested in hit-and-run.](#)

16 APR 2007: A sport utility vehicle believed to be carrying illegal immigrants rolled several times Monday in southeastern Utah's San Juan County, killing eight men and injuring seven others. The Chevy Suburban carrying 15 people rolled on U.S. 191 when the driver tried to avoid an animal in the remote Four Corners area of Utah, Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico. The injured were taken to hospitals in Utah, New Mexico and Colorado. One of the injured was in critical condition. The driver fled the scene but was found hiding in the desert about two miles away. He was identified as a 30-year-old from Guatemala, who was arrested and transported to the Utah County jail on immigration violations unrelated to the crash. One of the injured was in critical condition. Federal immigration agents were investigating it as a possible case of human trafficking. Story reported by KVOA, Tucson in [Eight dead in SUV rollover near Arizona-Utah border](#)

14 APR 2007: [Thomas Icenogle](#), 51, was killed when his motor cycle was hit by an SUV being driven by 19-year-old Ericel Garcia of San Marcos. Garcia was booked on suspicion of vehicular manslaughter, felony hit-and-run and driving without a license.

12 APR 2007: [Kent Boone](#), 33 and a father of five, was killed in Solana, CA by a drunk driving, illegal alien, Isidro Jose Pena, who was allegedly traveling 90 miles per hour on March 31 when he crossed a double yellow line and hit Boone. Pena had four previous drunken driving convictions, and also had two pounds of crystal methamphetamine in his truck, according to California Highway Patrol officers who later checked Pena's home and found even more drugs. The CHP says that Pena [has four prior DUI convictions](#), as well as a drug conviction. [Pena has been convicted six times of driving without a license.](#) Pena allegedly has some of his prior convictions under other names. "He was supposed to have been deported (in 2005)," said Solano CHP spokesman Willie Williford. "Out investigation shows he never was." Williford could not say why or how Pena avoided deportation. In 2003 and 2005, Pena was convicted for DUI in Contra Costa County – and for a felony narcotics charge in the same county in 2005. That same year, he was convicted of a DUI in neighboring Solano County – the county where he killed Boone last month.

7 APR 2007, a [bicyclist was in critical](#) condition Saturday night after being struck in a hit-and-run crash by an unlicensed driver, *RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA* authorities said. The 58-year-old bicyclist from Coto de Caza was riding in a bicycle lane north on Antonio Parkway near Valeroso shortly after 3 p.m. when a vehicle heading the same direction veered into the lane and struck Augustin Hernandez Perez, 31, got out of the vehicle and ran away. Deputies caught him about a mile away and he was arrested on suspicion of felony hit-and-run. Perez had no driver's license or other identification and spoke no English, and authorities were trying to determine his immigration status. This story was reported by KCAL.

5 APR 2007: "A Christmas Story" [director Bob Clark and his 22 year old son](#) were killed by drunk driving illegal alien Hector Velazquez-Nava who steered his sport utility vehicle into the wrong lane of Pacific Coast Highway in Pacific Palisades striking Clark's sedan head-on. Authorities said Velazquez-Nava was driving without a license and the LA Times reported that Velazquez-Nava blood alcohol content was three times the legal limit.

1 APR 2007: [Leoner Perez](#), 21, was killed in Florida when a drunk driving illegal alien Urgana DeNova turned into the path of two other cars. Perez died at the scene. DeNova tried to get away with a friend in another truck, but both were eventually found and arrested. Police reported that DeNova was still legally drunk six hours following the crash.

31 MAR 2007: [Tessa Tranchant, 16, and Allison Kunhardt, 17](#), were killed in Virginia Beach when a car driven by drunk driving illegal alien Alfredo Ramos, plowed into the rear of their vehicle as they waited for a green light at an intersection. Although girls were wearing seat belts, one died at the scene and the other at the hospital after having to be cut out of the car. Ramos had previously been convicted, twice, on DUIs. This was the tragedy that set Bill O'Reilly off. See the video [Geraldo vs. O'Reilly](#).

30 MAR 2007: Andrew Stear, 21, a Missouri college student was killed when illegal alien Hugo Rodriguez Colindrez, most likely driving drunk, hit him driving a stolen van as he crossed a popular strip in Panama City Beach. Colindrez kept driving after the crash and stopped only after a motorist who witnessed the accident forced him to the side of the road. This incident was reported by Susan Weich in the St Louis Post dispatch in [Student on vacation killed in hit-and-run](#).

28 MAR 2007: [Maria Ortiz, and her 18-year-old daughter, Vanessa](#), who was five months pregnant, were killed in Georgia by illegal alien Ignacio Gomez-Gutierrez, who had been **previously convicted three times for drunken driving** in Harris County, and served time in jail in 2002, 2004 and 2005. Gomez-Gutierrez's blood alcohol was about three times the legal limit. Police say he was speeding on the Eastex Freeway about 3:40 p.m. Sunday when his pickup slammed into the back of a 1998 Buick belonging to the Ortiz family. The two women were killed on impact. Gomez-Gutierrez did not stop at the accident scene, authorities said, but was captured farther down the road after being struck by another vehicle when he fled from his disabled car. Gomez-Gutierrez, who wasn't injured in the crash, kept running until a bystander pinned him down about a mile east of the accident, authorities said. This story was originally reported by Cindy Horswell in the Houston Chronicle.

5 MAR 2007: [Jerry Dwane Braswell, 35, and his 9-year-old son, Jerry Dwane Braswell Jr.](#), were killed Angier, N.C. in February 2007, by illegal alien Luciano Tellez who collided with a truck after running a stop sign. The truck, a tractor running without a trailer, overturned and came to a rest on the Braswells pickup in a ditch. Both the father and son were killed when

leaking diesel fuel ignited. Tellez was wanted by police for a probation violation stemming from a 2005 drunken driving conviction in Wake County. He was also convicted of drunken driving in Wake County in 2002. Tellez was driving without a license.

7 FEB 2007: [Leeanna Newman](#), 20 year old and 8 months pregnant, was killed by a drunk driving illegal alien, Rigo Martinez, who crossed the center line and hit her car head on. Leanna had just sent out invitations for a baby shower. Kannapolis police confirm Martinez was involved in two hit and runs moments before the fatal accident. They said there was only about 1.5 miles between the first hit and run and the second. This story was originally reported by WCNC reporters Melissa Martin and Mark Boone.

28 JAN 2007: Gladys Reyes, 11, of Hastings MN, was dragged nearly 500 yards after illegal alien Mauricio Sanchez struck her with his van, leaving her severely injured. Dakota County Attorney James Backstrom said he will ask for a three-year prison sentence. "We believe this man showed particular cruelty, and his attempt to flee after striking the young girl resulted in life-threatening and permanent debilitating injuries," Backstrom said. "She was close to dying." A classmate who was crossing the street with Reyes when she was struck wept openly as she told of banging on the window of Sanchez's van, trying to get him to stop. Gladys' right arm was amputated because of her injuries. This incident was reported by Angela Davis of WCCO in [Man Sentenced To 23 Months For Dragging Girl](#).

19 JAN 2007: [Chief Ernest V. Mendoza](#), Police chief of the Needville Independent School District, lost his life when he was hit head on by drunken illegal alien Guillermo Paniagua Paniagua who veered into his lane. Paniagua had four previous drunken driving convictions. Paniagua fled the scene on foot but was captured later. Chief Mendoza had served with the Needville ISD Police Department for 10 years and a total of 25 years law enforcement service. He is survived by his wife and seven children. Mendoza, a 25-year-veteran of law enforcement, leaves behind a wife and four children.

31 DEC 2006: [Deputy Loren Lilly](#), an 18 year veteran of the Cobb County, GA, police department was killed Christmas Eve morning, 2006, on his way to work when an illegal alien swerved into his lane. The driver, Joel Camacho Perea, faces charges of hit and run, failure to maintain lane and driving without a license.

29 DEC 2006: [Joshua Morrow, 4, and his uncle, Ronald Bishop](#) were killed by an illegal alien Armando Lopez-Canada, who left the scene of the accident. Lopez-Canada and three other illegal immigrants in the SUV were on their way home from a construction job for PCL in Orlando. He was able to get a driver's license with his Mexican passport and immigration application, but his license is expired. This incident was reported by [Dave Balut](#) of Tampa Bays 10 News.

24 DEC 2006: [Cheryl Ceran, 47, and two of her children, 15-year-old Ian and 7-year-old Julianna were killed](#) on Christmas Eve by drunk driving illegal alien Carlos Rodolfo Prieto, 24, who ran a red light and slammed into their car. Also injured in the crash were Cheryl Ceran's husband, Gary Ceran, 45, their daughter, Clarissa, 19, and a son, Caleb, 12. Prieto had at least two other drunken driving arrests and did not have a license.

7 DEC 2006: Audra Kaczur, 24, of Islip Terrace, and David Calogero, 31, of West Islip, were killed when a Volkswagen GTI they were riding in was broadsided by a TrailBlazer driven by a drunken illegal alien, Torres-Paredes. Police say that Torres-Paredes was operating his grandmother's car without a license. The crash came just two months after Torres-Paredes was stopped by a sheriff's deputy for driving without a license, speeding and following another vehicle too closely. During the Sept. 23 arrest, he also was charged with forgery and

criminal impersonation, likely for driving with a fake license, officials said. This incident was reported by Christine Armaro of Newsday.com in [In an instant, gone forever](#)

5 DEC 2006: [Ryan Ostendorf](#), 28, was killed on U.S. Highway 40, near Shawnee Heights Rd. by drunk driving illegal alien Anzua-Torres who had a blood-alcohol level of 0.26 percent, more than three times the legal limit of 0.08, authorities said. He had no driver's license, had a prior drunken-driving arrest and had been deported as an illegal immigrant once before. Ryan was a biology student at KU and planned on being a cardiologist. Meagan Kennedy, Ryan's fiancé who also is a paramedic, said Ryan was her "soul mate and love of my life." Anzua-Torres had ignored an order to receive treatment after his previous drunken-driving conviction. He also had been deported in 2000 and been arrested for several other offenses, including possession of drug paraphernalia. The incident was also reported in the Lawrence Journal-World in [Drunken driver gets 13 years for fatal wreck](#)

2 DEC 2006: [Four illegal immigrants, including a pregnant woman, were killed](#) when a van packed with 14 illegal immigrants and driven by illegal immigrant Jose Franco Rodriguez went out of control in a snow storm and struck a truck off I70, near Idaho Springs, Colorado. Immigration authorities say 23-year-old driver had been deported at least twice. His last deportation came just two months ago from Denver. Investigators said Rodriguez ran from the scene but was captured later.

30 NOV 2006: [Marine Corporal Brian Mathews](#), 21, and his girlfriend [Jennifer Bower](#), 24, of Montgomery Village, were killed by a drunk illegal alien Eduardo Raul Morales-Soriano, who slammed into their car when it was stopped at a traffic light. Corporal Mathews was on leave, after just returning from duty in Iraq. Morales-Soriano had a blood-alcohol level that was four times the legal limit. Soriano was charged with drunken driving earlier this year, but the case was dropped because Howard County police did not collect enough evidence. Prosecutors also said a police blunder allowed Morales-Soriano, to keep his driver's license after the Feb. 5 incident, although it should have been suspended immediately after he refused to take a breath test. This incident was reported by Amit Paley in the Washington Post in [Crash Suspect Had Feb. Charge](#)

30 NOV 2006: Gualberto Patricio Garcia, 21, a passenger in a car driven by illegal alien Jose Roberto Castro-Gomez was killed when the car crashed into a tree at about 1:20 a.m. off U.S. 33 west of Harrisburg. Castro-Gomez was convicted of involuntary manslaughter and leaving the scene of a crash and was sentenced to one year in prison. The prosecuted said that Castro-Gomez walked away from the single-car crash carrying a beer. This incident was reported by David Reynolds of DNROnline in [Man Sentenced In Fatal Wreck](#)

13 NOV 06: [Becca Bingham and her two children, Macie, 4, and Garrison, 2, were killed](#) in downtown Denver when a pickup truck, driven by Lawrence Trujillo ran a red light at a lighted intersection mowing down a mother, father, and the two children who were crossing in a crosswalk. Witnesses told police "He didn't even brake." It was later determined that Trujillo was drunk at the time and is an illegal alien.

12 NOV 2006: When [Jose Trejo Encino](#) lost control of his 1996 Pontiac Grand Prix late one night last month in Madison County, Tenn., killing one of his passengers and injuring another, he at least had the presence of mind to throw the cans of beer he had from the car into the woods before the police arrived, according to affidavits entered in court from witnesses. Encino, 27, who admitted to deputies at the scene "to drinking a 12-pack of beer earlier in the night," is now facing charges of vehicular homicide and tampering with evidence after the one-car accident that killed Sergio Lopez, 18, and injured Hugo Trejo, 20.

An administrative hold was also placed on Encino this week after an agent for the U.S. Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement determined the suspect was in the U.S. illegally. He is being held on \$150,000 bond. According to affidavits from deputies who investigated the wreck, "a strong odor of an intoxicant about his person" was detected. Alcohol is believed to have contributed to the accident.

5 NOV 2006: Sue Williamson, 54, a Raleigh, NC musician, was killed by drunk driving illegal alien Carlos Gonzalez Hernandez,, who had a blood-alcohol level of 0.17%. Her husband Tom was also injured in the accident. This incident was reported by Matt Dees at the News & Observer in [Immigrant in crash poses dilemma](#)

27 OCT 2006: [Helen Hughes, 22, Jennifer Carter, 18, and Hughes' stepbrother, 16-year-old Ben Leonard were all killed](#) by illegal alien, Pastor Rios Sanchez, who allegedly was driving drunk and already had a long record of crime in the United States. The two women were students at North Carolina State and all three were returning to Raleigh recently when Sanchez's car crossed the center line and collided head on with Hughes' station wagon. The two girls died instantly and Leonard died shortly after being taken to Central Carolina Hospital. The [Raleigh News-Observer](#) reports that Sanchez was carrying fraudulent identification and that Sanchez had pleaded guilty to driving without a license a year ago. Court records show he was accused of a similar count in March and another in April.

16 OCT 2006: [Amy Kortlang](#) 22, of Romona, CA, was killed by a drunk driving illegal alien, Rafael Ramirez Perez, driving without a license. Perz had been **previously deported**, barely six months prior to causing the accident, a four-vehicle crash on Highway 67 that killed Amy Kortlang and injured three other people. Perez was driving his company's pickup truck when the fatal accident happened on a dark stretch of Highway 67. Perez's truck veered into the opposite lane and sideswiped a Dodge Caliber before slamming head-on into Amy Kortlang's red Honda Civic. The Honda overturned, and she died at the scene. Perez walked away from the accident but was arrested two miles from the accident. Her mother, Melanie Kortlang asks "How was this (man) allowed to come back ... and do the ultimate, which was kill my daughter?" Kortlang asked rhetorically in a phone interview. She said no one in government has offered any explanations about how Rafael Ramirez Perez, deported to Mexico earlier this year, was back on the road in Ramona..."

13 OCT 2006: [Joyce Dargan](#) of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina was killed as she strolled out to check her roadside mailbox. Dargan was hit by a car driven by a 14-year-old illegal alien (a student at the local high school) as he drag raced against another illegal alien at speeds of 80 miles per hour. As is so often the case, the perp had prior arrests, having been stopped twice for traffic violations in the six weeks before Joyce Dargan had been killed. As a result, her husband Waldeck observed that laxity about illegal immigration had contributed to his wife's death. He vowed to be there when the boys are released from prison in six years to make sure they are deported.

22 SEP 2006: [Kelly Bergen](#), 25, a teacher in the gifted and talented program at Sangre de Cristo elementary school died when her car was crushed between two potato trucks. Bergen's Ford Focus was hit from behind by a potato truck driven by illegal alien Oscar Martinez-Cruz, and pushed into another potato truck being towed by a tractor. Martinez-Cruz was arrested and charged with careless driving causing death, driving a motor vehicle without a valid operator's license and failure to present evidence of insurance. This story was originally reported by the Alamosa Valley Courier by Eric Mullens.

21 SEP 2006: [Officer Rodney Johnson](#), a 12 year veteran of the Houston Police Force, was killed by [illegal alien Juan Leonardo Quintero](#), who Johnson had stopped Quintero for speeding, Johnson found that Quintero didn't have a license, so he then cuffed him and put him in the back of the squad car. Quintero somehow was able to draw a weapon which Johnson had missed, and then shot and killed the officer as he sat in the driver's seat. Rodney Johnson truly was one of Houston's Finest and had been recognized more than once for his [heroic actions in the line of duty](#). . Officer Johnson leaves behind a wife and five children.

26 AUG 2006: [James F. Rogers Jr.](#), 18, of North Jackson, Tenn. Was killed by drunk driving illegal alien Luis Oscar Garcia. According to the Jackson Sun, Garcia's 1995 Chevy S-10 pickup ran a red light and slammed into the Honda Civic that Rogers was driving. In addition to the vehicular homicide and DUI charges, Garcia faces counts of driving without a license, registration or proof of insurance. When police did a check on his license plate, it did not come back under his name. The Jackson Sun originally reported this incident but all the links are dead. You can go [here](#) to see externally archived reports.

7 AUG 2006: [Louella Winton](#), 91, was asleep in her bed when a car driven by Vitalina Bautista Vargas crashed into her house in Chattanooga, Tenn. The vehicle knocked the victim through the bedroom wall and threw her against the wall of the house next door killing her. Story in the Chattanooga.com under [Illegal Alien Charged In Traffic Death To Be Deported](#)

02 AUG 2006: Haines City police Officer [Phoenix Braithwaite](#), 24, was killed in a head-on crash Aug. 2 on U.S. 17-92 in Osceola County on his way to work. He had been with the Police Department for 10 months. He would have been 25 years old Thursday. He is survived by his wife and 2-year-old daughter, Brianna. Miguel Garduno Gonzalez, 43, of Haines City, was driving the van that hit Braithwaite's motorcycle. Gonzalez fled the scene but was arrested later that day and has been charged with leaving the scene of an accident where a death occurred and driving without a driver license. He is being held in the Polk County Jail without bail. Florida Highway Patrol officials said Gonzalez is an illegal immigrant. An investigation into whether he had a valid state ID is ongoing.

8 JUN 2006: [Donna and Sean Wilson](#) of Juliet Tennessee, were killed by illegal alien Gustavo Reyes Garcia who had been **arrested 14 times, including four DUIs, in the previous five years** prior to when he ran into and killed them, again driving while intoxicated, his time four times over the legal alcohol limit. Besides the DUI cases, he had been previously charged with domestic assault, leaving the scenes of accidents, driving on a revoked or suspended license, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, theft, failing to have insurance and driving with an open container. At his sentencing, Garcia asked the family for forgiveness while at the same time blaming a system that allowed him to get multiple DUIs previously with little punishment.

26 MAY 2005: [Travis Smith, 19, was killed](#) when he was struck head-on by a vehicle driven by an illegal alien who was transporting four other illegal aliens to Pennsylvania. Smith was

killed in the crash, as well as 62-year-old Bernarda Gordillo, a passenger in Aranda-Flores' vehicle. This incident was reported by Angie Welling in the Deseret Morning News.

25 FEB 2006 TAMPA Police Detective Juan Serrano was killed by drunk driving illegal alien Luis Espinoza Who fled the scene after the crash. At the trial Espinoza pleaded "I'm really sorry for what happened," "I'm very sorry. I'm not a bad person. I don't have a record. I've never done anything like this. ...We all make mistakes. Nobody's perfect." Detective Serrano leaves a wife and a number of children. This incident was reported on by Elaine Silvestrini of the Tampa Tribune in [Driver Gets Max Sentence In Crash That Killed Officer](#)

26 JAN 2006: [Hester Coleman](#) was killed by an intoxicated illegal alien, [Isael Medrano](#), who whipped into her lane to pass a couple of cars that had slowed down for one of them to make a right turn. Coleman, who would have turned 63 that Saturday, died instantly, according to the state Highway Patrol. Medrano, had a blood-alcohol content of 0.09%.

11 NOV 2005: [Min Soon Chang](#), 18, freshman from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, was killed by drunk driving illegal alien Jorge Humberto Hernandez-Soto, who hit him while going 100 MPH the wrong way on the highway. Some reports noted that Hernandez-Soto had been **previously deported** to his native Mexico **17 times**. That is not a typo. Tasha Beth Thomas, who was driving a vehicle that the Expedition sideswiped after the head-on collision was also seriously injured. Police said that Hernandez was driving for almost 20 miles on the wrong side of I-485.

4 AUG 2005: [Peggy Keller](#), dean of distance education at Yakima Valley Community College, was killed by a twice deported illegal alien, Marcos Ramos Medina, who was driving under the influence of methamphetamines. Medina was found to have at least eight aliases and falsely identified himself at his first court appearance.

20 JUL 2005: [Scott Gardner](#) of Mount Holly, N.C. was on vacation and heading to the coast with his family when his station wagon was struck by a truck driven by drunk driving Ramiro Gallegos, an illegal alien **previously charged three times with drunk driving**. Gardner, the father of two young children, was killed, and his wife was in critical condition. According to records, Gallegos was first charged in early 200 but prosecutors dismissed the case when he failed to appear in court. His first DWI conviction came in 2002 in Duplin County. His sentence: probation. In April 2004, Gallegos faced a third DWI charge, in Brunswick County, when he registered a blood alcohol level of 0.16 percent, twice the legal limit and was found guilty of DWI Level 1, the most serious level. Records show that Judge Tom Aldridge ordered a two-year prison sentence, the maximum. But he suspended that sentence and allowed Gallegos to spend 30 days in jail, serving those days over a period of 15 weekends. He also ordered 30 months probation, \$600 in fines and \$740 in restitution. This story was originally reported by Jim Morrill and Greg Rickabaugh in the Charlotte Observer.

25 JUN 2005: Dr. Steven Fleisher of Upper Providence was seriously injured when his motorcycle was struck by illegal alien Francisco Ramirez. The accident was precipitated when Ramirez, driving a 1995 Ford van, made a left-hand turn in front of Fleisher's motorcycle. The van struck the motorcycle, causing Fleisher to be thrown off where he suffered multiple fractures and tissue damage to his left leg to the extent that amputation was a consideration. Fleisher has been unable to work, and the \$750,000-a-year practice he built up over 16 years has been destroyed. Ramirez had no driver's license and the van which he was driving had no insurance coverage and no current state inspection sticker. Margaret Gibbons reported this incident in the Times Herald in [Illegal alien faces deportation](#)

19 DEC 2004: [Natalie Housand](#), 20, of Tabor City, North Carolina, was killed when illegal alien Jesus Garcia Lopez hit her car while driving drunk. [A witness said that Lopez' vehicle was traveling at 100 mph and that the SUV's brake lights never went on.](#) Amazingly, after the head-on collision, Lopez fled the scene. A blood sample taken from Lopez four hours after the crash showed a blood alcohol content of 0.12 percent. A prosecution witness testified during the trial that Lopez' BAC at the time of the crash was 0.18 percent, more than twice the 0.08 percent legal limit for drivers in North Carolina. Natalie's family and friends put together a remembrance website to celebrate her all-too-brief life, filled with [photos](#) and loving [tributes](#).

8 AUG 2004: Chicago Police Officer [Michael Patrick Gordon](#) lost his life to a drunken illegal alien driver Luis Calle, whose blood alcohol level was 0.177, twice the legal limit. Officer Gordon was in the driver's seat of his squad car when it was struck by Calle. Officer Gordon was a two year veteran of the Chicago Police Department. He previously served for two years as a police officer with the Riverside, Illinois Police Department, and as a military police officer in the U.S. Army. Officer Gordon is survived by his wife and four children. Luis Calle was also killed in the crash.

22 JUL 2004: Oakland Police [Officer Will Seuis](#), 39, was killed enroute home, in uniform on his assigned motorcycle, on Interstate 238, when he was struck and run over by a big rig truck driven by illegal alien Carlos Mares. The big rig truck did not stop at the scene of the accident. Mares fled the scene but was arrested approximately 15 minutes later. Mares had a long [history of traffic convictions](#). Officer Seuis, a sixteen-year veteran of the Police Department, was [remembered at his funeral](#) as a hard-working cop who had received 33 letters of appreciation from citizens, including one from a motorist he had ticketed. Seuis is survived by his wife Michelle and daughters Danielle (13) and Kristin (11).

18 JUL 2004: [Brandon Haley](#), 31, was killed while riding his bicycle in a hit and run by illegal alien Lizardo Lobaton. Lobaton and another man were returning from a liquor store in Oklahoma after drinking alcohol all night when the accident occurred. This incident was reported by Sharon Fitzgerald in the Arkansas Democrat Gazette.

18 July 2004: [Corporal Michael Shea](#) was killed when his patrol car was struck head on by a vehicle being operated by an intoxicated illegal alien who was going the wrong way on State Route 1 near Route 206, outside Milford. That vehicle was fleeing the scene of a previous accident. Corporal Shea was taken to Milford Memorial Hospital where he died from his injuries. Corporal Shea is survived by his wife, son, daughter, and parents. This incident reported in WND in [Illegal, 17, runs down hero cop](#)

July 2004: Justin Goodman, 32, was riding his motorcycle through an intersection when he was hit and killed by illegal alien Roberto Martinez-Ruiz then left the scene of the crime. Since 1996, Martinez-Ruiz used six different aliases, had arrests for driving under the influence, failure to appear in court, probation violation, careless driving, driving with a revoked license, and hit and run. He has spent time in jail and in 2000, his drivers license was revoked for five years. [A 7NEWS investigation](#) that revealed that no local law enforcement agency, prosecutor, or judge ever contacted federal immigration officials to have Martinez-Ruiz deported after his numerous arrests and time spent in jail. 7 News Denver reported this story in [Illegal Immigrant Gets Maximum Sentence In Hit & Run Death](#).

8 JUN 2004: Bladimir and Uriel Roblero, 24 and 22, respectively, and Amadeo Tlaxcala, 30 were killed when a van driven by illegal alien Damian Cruz crashed near Hardin, IL. A fourth passenger, Alfredo Salazar was in critical condition. "We were able to determine the

defendant, Damian Cruz, had false documentation. His green card was false, as well as his Social Security card," said Gail Montenegro, a spokeswoman for ICE. Maggie Borman reported the story in The Telegraph in [Migrant worker found to be illegal alien](#)

23 AUG 2003: Anna Sotelo-Solis, 27 and Yesenia Antonia Montesdeoca, 2 were killed when the driver of the van they were in, illegal alien Maribel Sotelo-Solis, made an illegal U-turn on I-90, near **JANESVILLE, WS**, and was hit broadside by on-coming traffic, a pickup truck driven by Darren A. Reichert, who was also seriously injured in the crash. Sotelo is also accused of second-offense driving without a valid license and failing to restrain the child. WISC-TV reported this story in [Officials Say I-90 Crash Driver Is Illegal Alien](#)

23 MAR 2003: [Annie Cumpston](#), 6, was killed in a hit-and-run accident in downtown Baltimore by a truck driven by illegal alien Guillermo Diaz when it veered into the crosswalk as she and her family were leaving the circus. When Diaz was arrested, he did not have a driver's license, the tags on the truck were expired and his blood-alcohol level was 0.07 percent. Diaz had been in the United States illegally for four years doing construction work. He received 10 years in prison but is eligible for parole in just two years. This is an example of a horrific crime where all the easy to find references are gone but you can find the story at archived at [CRIME VICTIMS OF ILLEGAL ALIENS](#).

FEB 2003: [The Marti family](#) is pictured here during a happy moment that no longer exists. Sean, just 24 years old, and his daughter Sage, 5 months old, were killed by a drunk illegal alien who was driving the wrong way on Highway 84 in Idaho. Natalie Marti was in a coma for two weeks after the head-on crash, spent two months in the hospital, and has suffered brain damage from a traumatic head wound. This incident was reported in the Idaho Press-Tribune.

4 SEP 2002: [Tricia Ann Taylor, 17, and of Clarkston, MI, and Noah Menard, 20](#), of Pontiac, MI were walking to Menard's car after a concert Saturday at the Arts, Beats and Eats festival when they were struck by illegal alien Jose Carcamo, who was drag racing. Carcamo, who had 17 previous violations since 1995, hit the two pedestrians, going approximately 50 mph to 70 mph on a street posted for 25 mph. . Taylor was severely injured after being pinned against the exterior of a building. She had both her legs amputated as a result. Menard's skull and collarbone were fractured, his elbow mangled, requiring surgery and the insertion of eight pins.

29 JUL 2000: [Christopher Shackelford](#), 19, Julieanne Pascoe, 18, and Kelli Bourgeois, 18, were all killed in Marietta, Georgia, by a drunk, illegal alien, Sergio Montelongo Sanchez. A fourth teen, Matthew Hunt, was permanently handicapped as a result of the crash. [Sanchez allegedly had 10 to 15 beers that night.](#) He staggered out of the bar and into his large Lincoln Continental around 1 a.m. when he swerved from his own lane and crossed into oncoming traffic where he struck the Civic the four teens were riding in. Sanchez did not have a valid driver's license or insurance but did have a blood alcohol level at twice the legal limit.