



# North Carolina Department of Administration

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

Britt Cobb, Secretary

## Memorandum

TO: All State Employees  
RE: Fleet Model Chevrolet Impalas (2006-2008)  
FROM: John Massey, Director Motor Fleet Management  
DATE: November 24, 2009

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WTVD is promoting a report that will be broadcast this evening about alleged safety hazards associated with fleet version 2006-2008 Chevrolet Impalas in the state motor fleet. These vehicles are assigned mostly, but not exclusively, for law enforcement purposes.

We want to assure all state employees, and especially those who drive those specific vehicles, that they were purchased through the competitive bid process with all safety equipment required by the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards for that period. Side-curtain airbags were not removed from these vehicles, as has been alleged.

All Motor Fleet passenger vehicles are equipped with front air bags for safety. While WTVD has alleged that not purchasing optional side-curtain air bags put users at grave risk, this feature was labeled "optional" by General Motors because it was not required to meet strict, established federal safety standards.

It is our understanding that WTVD's interest in fleet version 2006-2008 Chevrolet Impalas started last month when it localized a national report that [criticized Enterprise Rent-a-Car](#) for reselling vehicles without side-impact airbags to consumers who thought the vehicles had them. To be clear: The state bought its fleet version 2006-2008 Chevrolet Impalas knowing exactly what equipment was in them; and, when it comes time to dispose of them, will do so openly and factually in accordance with the strict rules of the State Surplus Property Agency.

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