



## **American Family Insurance Serious About Auto Safety, Supports The Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Auto Safety Forum For the Third Year In Washington DC.**

*American Family Insurance addressed the relatively high numbers of fatal accidents among African Americans during the Congressional Black Caucus Issue Forum. It also reiterated the need for ethnic minorities, in particular, to wear their seatbelts. This was the third year that American Family Insurance played a major role during the Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Week. The Issue Forum was hosted by U.S. Rep. Corrine Brown (D-FL)*

([PRWEB](#)) October 13, 2004 -- American Family Insurance Serious About Auto Safety Supports The Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Auto Safety Forum For the Third Year in Washington DC.

A disproportionate number of black teenagers are dying on America's roadways, and it's in part because of their decision not to buckle up.

American Family Insurance (AFI) recently sponsored for the third year an issue forum at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's (CBCF) Annual Legislative Conference to discuss ways to increase seat belt use by ethnic teenagers.

The conference was a good match for American Family because of its place in the automobile insurance industry and desire to increase safe driving practices, said Gwen Jones, director of emerging markets development for the company.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the use of seat belts and child safety seats by African Americans remains lower than the population as a whole. This difference has contributed to higher traffic fatality rates for the two groups, the NHTSA says.

Traffic accidents are the leading cause of death among African American children from birth to age 14, and the second leading cause of death among African American males between the ages 15 to 24.

"Too many people - particularly young people - are dying or getting seriously hurt in crashes when a simple buckling of a seat belt may have saved them," Jones said.

The CBCF holds this annual conference to provide a national forum to develop strategies and viable solutions to public policy issues.

U. S. Congresswoman Corrine Brown, Florida 3rd Congressional District, introduced the forum to a full house of congressional staff, public affairs officials and other public policy decision makers.

Various experts spoke about safety restraint use and gave their own perspectives on the subject, including representatives from General Motors, Ford, Daimler Chrysler Corporation and RainbowPUSH.

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