# Safety Assessment Findings Evaluation - SAFE REPORT

Submitted by: RollBackTolls.com October 12, 2011

RollBackTolls.com commends MDX (Miami-Dade Expressway Authority) for commissioning an <u>Initial Traffic Safety Assessment (ITSA)</u> for the Killian Parkway MDX re-configuration. RollBackTolls.com feels compelled to respond.

The MDX ITSA report begins by noting that the Killian Parkway/107<sup>th</sup> Avenue configuration was identified as a 'High Crash Location' by FDOT from the years 2004 to 2010. Page 3 of the ITSA report details 22 accidents within the project limits from August 1, 2011 thru September 14, 2011. Even though this was based on 69 police reports and not the 81 accidents that actually occurred, let's use the ITSA figures so we can compare apples to apples (accidents to accidents). (See Exhibit A)

Why doesn't the **ITSA** report compare the 22 accidents within the project limits to accidents at that same location from prior years? Such a comparison would be logical and expected. Isn't this the core of the issue? Have we gone from a 'High Crash Location' to a safer reconfiguration? Isn't this the first question the I**TSA** should ask and answer? The **ITSA** brings up the issue and then never addresses it. The omission is glaring and disappointing. Yes, we recognize that this is still an active construction site. This site was opened however August 1<sup>st</sup> to traffic. One would reasonably expect accidents to go down at that point, not up. The purpose of this re-configuration was to increase

safety and relieve congestion. At the recent public forum for the Busway "Lexus Lanes", the spokesman for MDX said, "The first rule in any of our projects is to not make it worse than it was before; to do no harm". The first rule appears to be broken here.

We looked at similar periods in the project limits for 2005 and 2006. In 2005, there were 13 accidents, a re-configuration increase of 69%. In 2006, there were 9 accidents, a re-configuration increase of 144%. An average increase using data from both years of 100%. (See Exhibits B,C)

So, on average, accidents at that intersection using conservative **ITSA** numbers, have doubled, a 100% increase. Twice as many accidents now than before the re-configuration. MDX took a 'High Crash Location' and re-configured it for the purpose of increasing safety and relieving congestion that has resulted in a doubling of the number of accidents occurring at that location.

Having now examined the accidents at Killian Parkway/107<sup>th</sup> Avenue intersection, what about the 81 total accidents in the 5 grids? (See Exhibit D)

Wouldn't it be valuable to collect and analyze and compare those 81 accidents to the same grids in prior years?

In 2005, there were 44 accidents in the same grids, a reconfiguration increase of 84%. In 2006, there were 66 accidents in the grids, a re-configuration increase of 23%. An average reconfiguration increase using data from both years of 47%. (See Exhibit E- Click this link to view)

The grids comparison year to year yields valuable clues as to the myriad of problems in the re-configuration. There are 4 corners to this re-configuration, plus a hill. The **ITSA** report is lacking in such comparison.

RollBackTolls.com is on record criticizing MDX in 3 critical areas regarding Killian/107<sup>th</sup> Avenue that we see as accident related.



1. Signage Even now, the sign says

107Avenue, Exit Only. As you follow this road up the hill, there is actually 1 or 2 lanes that exit only (depending on the construction that day) and 2 more lanes that zig zag down to the light at 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Killian Parkway facing west. There is no question that this and other signage confusion adds to the accident probability at the new re-configuration. The **ITSA** report ignores or minimizes the signage factor.



2. **Engineering** - Neither RollBackTolls.com nor anyone we have spoken with has ever encountered a similar 'slot car' configuration (2 lanes and 2 more lanes separated by a concrete

divider all facing west). As the light changes to green and you cross 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue heading west, the far right lane disappears and the next right lane quickly becomes a right turn only. Our eyewitness, Doug Kostowski, has seen over 20 accidents at this intersection. Last week there 2 accidents within a ½ hour period because of the 'slot car' configuration.

Other engineering issues exist. As an example, the left from 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue going east on Killian, has been termed by RollBackTolls.com 'The Deathtrap'. If cars are stopped at the light on the other side of the hill, the natural move is to turn into the 2<sup>nd</sup> set of 'slot car lanes'. When the light changes, the cars heading west on Killian will march over the hill and create a head on collision. Sadly, the **ITSA** report again minimizes engineering problems even in the face of at least a doubling of accidents in the re-configuration.

3. **Communication** - The 3<sup>rd</sup> area we identified as an MDX problem regarding the re-configuration is communication. To place big flashing signs that say, "New Traffic Pattern Ahead", does not prepare the driver for what lies ahead. We hear about RoboCalls but have yet to receive one. We hear about flyers but have yet to see one.

While RollBackTolls appreciates the invitation to come to MDX headquarters to hear an explanation of the **ITSA**, we see a more positive outcome in MDX coming to Killian/107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, site of the reconfiguration. RollBackTolls.com invites the Board of MDX, its support staff and engineers and all interested parties to Doug's office at a

mutually agreeable time to stand at the intersection of Killian and 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue and to see for yourself what we see.

# **Recommendations/Solutions**

# **Engineering**

- 1. Re-open the left turn onto Killian west from the original "slip" ramp. Kendale boulevard U-turns, all the barricades, cones and barrels and police presence could be instantly removed and resolved. The estimated \$200,000 spent on Sweetwater police was a waste. The re-open would have the additional benefit of serving as a relief valve when there are problems on the 874 South to Killian west exit.
- 2. Eliminate the 'slot car' configuration west bound on the east side of 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The current MDX plan is to negotiate with Miami Dade College to buy frontage to help patch the problem (an MDX admission as to how flawed the current design truly is). If Miami Dade College refuses to sell the land, which is entirely possible, our recommendation represents a definitive plan B. Eliminating the 'slot car' configuration also eliminates the 'Death Trap' turning left (east) from 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue south.

### Communication

We recommend MDX make all reasonable efforts to reach the community who travels this re-configuration.

1. Creation of Killian Parkway/107<sup>th</sup> Avenue web site. On this web site, display updated videos of the re-configuration as it currently exists along with travel lane suggestions as to how to

- safely proceed through the re-configuration. 'Drive' people to this web site through signs, flyers, radio etc.
- 2. Low Power Radio Station am1610 to advise re-configuration motorists of traffic conditions and construction updates.
- 3. We recommend immediate placement of live feed cameras all over this intersection to MDX headquarters where this fluid active construction site can be fully monitored. This reconfiguration screams for live feed cameras. MDX says they want to gather information and analyze that information. We have been pleading for 2 months to put live feed cameras all over the re-configuration. Let's get those cameras up!

Note: On October 5<sup>th</sup>, at the invitation of Cindy Polo, Communication Manager for MDX, Carlos Garcia and Miller Myers of RollBackTolls.com and Doug Kostowski, citizens, met for 2 hours at MDX headquarters with the following:

Christopher Bucknor – Consultant to MDX

Vivik Reddy – MDX contracted engineer

Carlos Francis – MDX contracted engineer

Mario Diaz – MDX Public Information Officer

The stated purpose of the meeting was to review the **ITSA** report and detail further improvements/modifications that MDX is implementing or considering. In particular, MDX is actively addressing improving signage in the re-configuration. Some of those improvements are a result of progression of the project

toward completion; some of those improvements are a result of input by RollBackTolls.com and others. Either way, we thank you, MDX for those signage improvements upcoming. MDX emphasized several times in the meeting that MDX takes the re-configuration seriously. Again, MDX, thank you for your attention to the seriousness of this projects deficiencies. As to other issues that were discussed, in particular engineering and communication, we are not yet satisfied that MDX is where they need to be on those issues.

# Of Particular Concern

- 1. The Accidents Continue Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2 more multiple car accidents. This problem is not easily going away.
- 2. Kendale Boulevard Neighborhood Under Siege MDX told us last week that the police were no longer needed on Kendale Boulevard as the U-turn problem had greatly diminished. Saturday morning the police were indeed gone, only to be needed again Saturday night. The Kendale neighborhood remains under siege. Obviously, the U-turns only diminished because of police presence. Re-opening up west bound Killian at the top of the hill would solve this problem immediately.
- 3. 107 Avenue Exit Only Sign Something here just does not make sense. When the sign was ordered, MDX had to know that 2 lanes were exit only and 2 lanes went west on Killian toward Miami Dade College. Why then does the sign not take into account the 2 lanes to Killian? Was the re-configuration changed during construction and MDX forgot to change the sign? Otherwise, the sign should have read Exit 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue /Miami Dade College.

- 4. 81 = 6 The **MDX ITSA** report culls down the 81 accidents in the 5 grids encompassing the re-configuration to 22 accidents at Killian/107<sup>th</sup> Avenue. For engineers, qualified in exactly precise measures, to deduce that only 6 of those accidents are a result of re-configuration, is like reading tea leaves or determining the intent of hanging chads. It is beyond their scope of expertise.
- 5. Lack of Year to Year Comparisons When asked, the engineers said ..."we did not compare the old configuration to the reconfiguration because they were different..." Huh? Is it better than it was before, or worse? Inquiring minds want to know. And, now we do.

# Exhibits A, B, C, D follow this report below.

We therefore submit the above **SAFE** report for the record. We wish all who read it, a **SAFE** day.

Thank you again MDX for the opportunity to respond.



Respectfully,

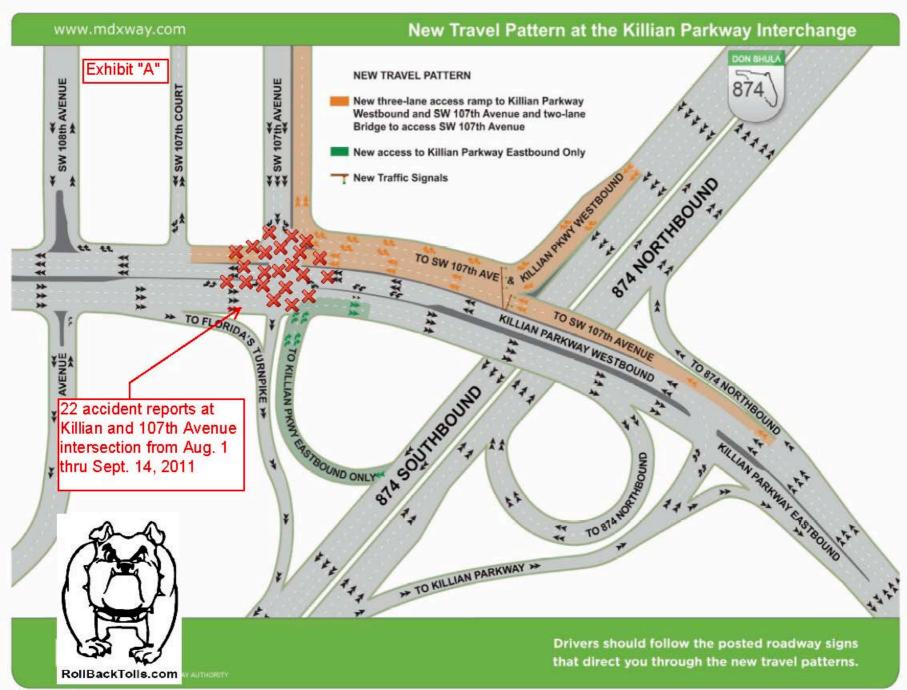
Miller Myers,

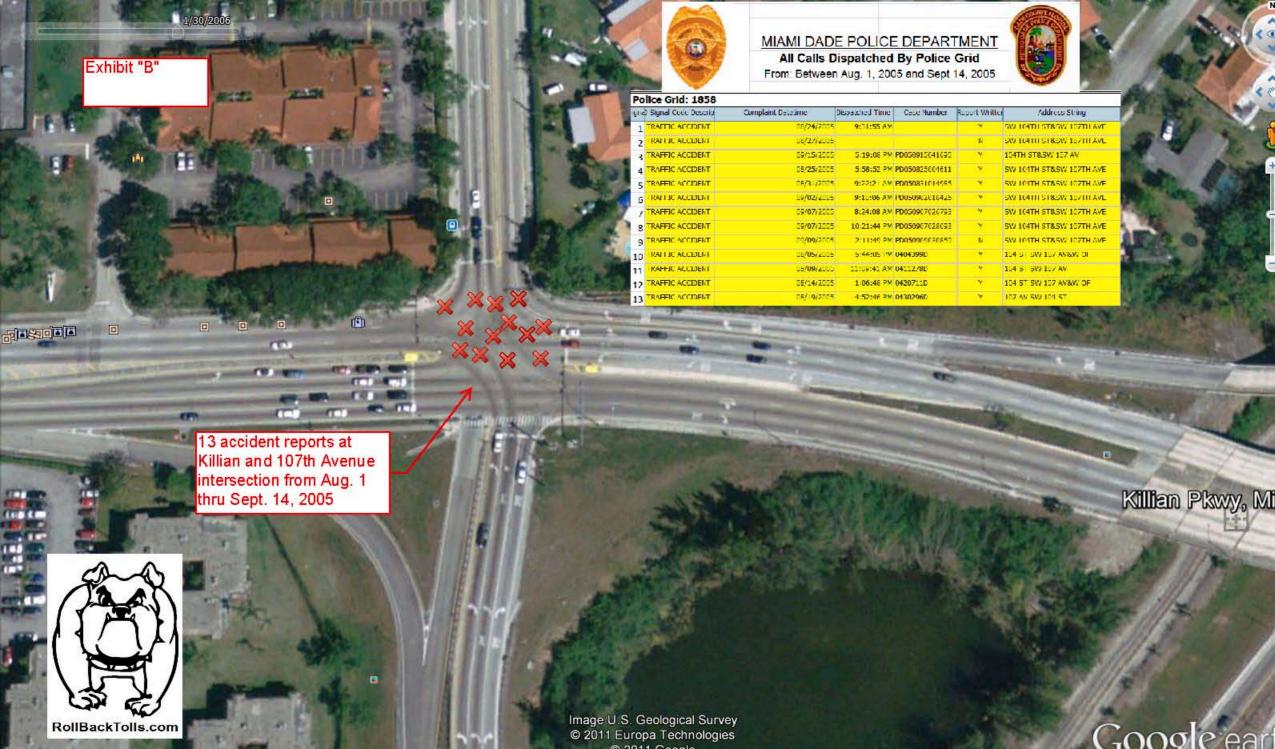
Carlos Garcia

(non-paid community volunteers)

### RollBackTolls.com

The Watchdog for Toll Roads in Miami-Dade County











# MIAMI DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT

# All Calls Dispatched By Police Grid From: Between Aug 1, 2011 and Sep 14, 2011



### Police Grid: 1858

CAD Signal Code	CAD Signal Code Description	Complaint Datetime	Call Dispatched Time HMS	Case Number	Report Written	Address String
.7	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/01/2011	11:23:04 AM	PD110801308507	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/05/2011	1:13:44 PM	PD110805314635	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/07/2011	8:44:32 PM	PD110807317904	Y	SW 104TH ST & SW 113TH PL
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/08/2011	4:39:40 PM	PD110808319047	Υ	9560 SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/11/2011	8:54:19 AM	PD110811322725	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/16/2011	3:53:01 PM	PD110816330268	Υ	SW 112TH AVE & SW 97TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/19/2011	4:36:54 PM	PD110819334730	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 115TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/22/2011	12:22:06 PM	PD110822338516	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/22/2011	2:36:18 PM	PD110822338680	Ν	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/23/2011	8:10:59 AM	PD110823339620	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 115TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/23/2011	9:58:53 AM	PD110823339741	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/23/2011	4:37:08 PM	PD110823340256	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/24/2011	10:13:03 AM	PD110824341173	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/24/2011	4:23:44 PM	PD110824341723	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/24/2011	6:01:44 PM	PD110824341884	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/25/2011	9:46:41 AM	PD110825342558	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/25/2011	10:00:53 AM	PD110825342583	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/25/2011	7:29:38 PM	PD110825343330	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/26/2011	7:57:50 AM	PD110826343836	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/30/2011	8:33:09 AM	PD110830349409	Ν	SW 104TH ST & SW 115TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/30/2011	3:11:51 PM	PD110830349947	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/30/2011	5:34:38 PM	PD110830350165	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/31/2011	9:11:20 AM	PD110831350872	Ν	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/31/2011	12:24:26 PM	PD110831351135	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/31/2011	6:02:46 PM	PD110831351629	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/31/2011	7:26:57 PM	PD110831351777	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/02/2011	10:27:28 AM	PD110902353914	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/06/2011	8:34:42 AM	PD110906359290	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/08/2011	4:20:07 PM	PD110908362859	Υ	10250 SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/13/2011	9:57:17 PM	PD110913370169	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 115TH AVE
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18	HIT AND RUN	08/26/2011	1:40:45 PM	PD110826344279	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST







CAD Signal Code	CAD Signal Code Description	Complaint Datetime	Call Dispatched Time HMS	Case Number	Report Written	Address String
18	HIT AND RUN	08/27/2011	6:52:45 PM	PD110827346089	Υ	11011 SW 104TH ST
	HIT AND RUN	08/27/2011	10:05:42 PM	PD110827346342	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	HIT AND RUN	08/27/2011	10:35:54 PM	PD110827346363	Ν	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	HIT AND RUN	08/29/2011	12:08:35 PM	PD110829348307	Y	11011 SW 104TH ST
	HIT AND RUN	09/13/2011	4:07:22 PM	PD110913369719	Ν	11011 SW 104TH ST
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### Police Grid: 1859

CAD Signal Code	CAD Signal Code Description	Complaint Datetime	Call Dispatched Time HMS	Case Number	Report Written	Address String
17	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/10/2011			Ν	SW 107TH AVE & SW 98TH BLK
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/08/2011	6:41:20 PM	PD110808319234	Υ	SW 107TH AVE & SW 95TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/16/2011	9:03:23 AM	PD110816329744	Ν	SW 100TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/07/2011	2:26:31 PM	PD110907361256	Υ	SW 107TH AVE & SW 93RD ST
	Sub-Total:	4				

### Police Grid: 1860

CAD Signal Code	CAD Signal Code Description	Complaint Datetime	Call Dispatched Time HMS	Case Number	Report Written	Address String
17	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/12/2011	1:06:39 PM	PD110812324510	Υ	SW 102ND AVE & S KENDALE BLVD
	Sub-Total:	1				

### Police Grid: 1891

CAD Signal Code	CAD Signal Code Description	Complaint Datetime	Call Dispatched Time HMS	Case Number	Report Written	Address String
17	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/05/2011			Ν	SW 107TH AVE & KILLIAN DR
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/04/2011	11:30:58 AM	PD110804312889	Υ	SW 107TH AVE & KILLIAN DR
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/14/2011	3:01:59 PM	PD110814327473	Υ	SW 107TH AVE & SW 112TH ST
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/27/2011	6:26:26 PM	PD110827346053	Ν	SW 104TH BLK & SW 108TH TER
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/07/2011	7:56:41 AM	PD110907360752	Ν	SW 107TH AVE & KILLIAN DR
	Sub-Total:	5				
18	HIT AND RUN	09/05/2011	2:24:49 PM	PD110905358398	Υ	SW 107TH AVE & SW 109TH TER
	Sub-Total:	1				







### Police Grid: 4890

CAD Signal Code	CAD Signal Code Description	Complaint Datetime	Call Dispatched Time HMS	Case Number	Report Written	Address String
17	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/16/2011			Ν	SW 107TH AVE & KILLIAN PKWY
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/01/2011			N	10801 SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/12/2011	10:58:57 PM		Ν	SW 107TH AVE & KILLIAN PKWY
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/01/2011	7:56:19 AM	PD110801308288	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/01/2011	1:53:00 PM	PD110801308714	Ν	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/03/2011	3:44:12 PM	PD110803311867	Υ	SW 107TH AVE & KILLIAN PKWY
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/04/2011	7:28:20 PM	PD110804313616	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/07/2011	8:05:37 AM	PD110807317185	N	10700 SW 108TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/07/2011	8:34:16 AM	PD110807317199	Υ	10700 SW 108TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/09/2011	2:06:26 PM	PD110809320288	Υ	10700 SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/11/2011	10:08:12 PM	PD110811323792	Ν	10661 SW 108TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/16/2011	6:25:03 PM	PD110816330496	Y	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/17/2011	10:29:53 AM	PD110817331305	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/18/2011	8:17:18 AM	PD110818332583	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/19/2011	8;09:23 PM	PD110819335025	Υ	SW 109TH CT & KILLIAI PKWY
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/20/2011	12:44:33 AM	PD110820335313	Y	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/20/2011	12:19:25 PM	PD110820335807	Ν	SW 104TH ST & SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/20/2011	9;47;36 PM	PD110820336486	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/22/2011	12:05:06 PM	PD110822338497	Υ	10527 SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/24/2011	10:51:32 PM	PD110824342198	Ν	SW 104TH ST & SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/25/2011	4:11:33 AM	PD110825342375	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/25/2011	5:38:15 PM	PD110825343169	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/26/2011	6:02:38 PM	PD110826344650	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/27/2011	1:32:35 PM	PD110827345722	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/30/2011	4:22:37 PM	PD110830350058	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 108TH AVE







CAD Signal Code	CAD Signal Code Description	Complaint Datetime	Call Dispatched Time HMS	Case Number	Report Written	Address String
17	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	08/31/2011	7:15:50 PM	PD110831351761	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/06/2011	8:41:47 AM	PD110906359304	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/07/2011	11:17:45 AM	PD110907361005	Ν	SW 107TH AVE & KILLIAN PKWY
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/09/2011	7:48:36 PM	PD110909364662	N	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/12/2011	1:30:09 PM	PD110912368181	Ν	SW 104TH ST & SW 109TH CT
	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	09/13/2011	1:01:43 PM	PD110913369480	Υ	SW 104TH ST & SW 109TH CT
	Sub-Total:	31				
18	HIT AND RUN	08/29/2011	11:44:46 AM	PD110829348268	Υ	11155 SW 112TH AVE
	HIT AND RUN	09/12/2011	8:48:58 PM	PD110912368736	Y	SW 104TH ST & SW 107TH AVE
	HIT AND RUN	09/14/2011	11:47:18 AM	PD110914370781	Υ	SW 107TH ST & SW 110TH BLK
	Sub-Total:	3				
Grand Total:	81					



# MIAMI DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## All Calls Dispatched By Grid Report Filters

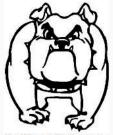


The following parameters were used to create this report:

Date: Between Aug 1, 2011 and Sep 14, 2011

Signals: 17, 18

Grids: 1858, 1859, 1860, 1891, 4890



RollBackTolls.com

Note: The address of a sex offense has been redacted to protect the identity of the victim, per FSS 119.

Disclaimer: CAD Data is only available from January 1, 1995, through the present.