

Florida Taking Steps to Address Pedestrian Safety

By: Carmen Dellutri

www.floridaanswerstopersonalinjuryquestions.com

While pedestrian fatalities are rising all over the country, Florida already has the highest crash rates in the country. Between 2000 and 2009, 5,163 pedestrians were killed on Florida roadways.

In July, the Orlando Sentinel published a series of articles, "[Blood In the Streets](#)," about the high number of pedestrian fatalities in Central Florida. Metro Orlando has been named the most dangerous city in the country for pedestrians.

The alarming statistics revealed in the investigation caught the attention of Florida government officials and lawmakers. Many are now calling for additional measures to improve pedestrian safety. "The numbers you are showing in this series are startling," State Sen. David Simmons told the [Sentinel](#). "And it certainly warrants an investigation and potential legislative action." Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Ananth Prasad also acknowledged that his agency can and will do more. "We definitely have to increase what we are doing," Prasad said. "We need to revisit the things we are doing. Expecting to get a different answer by doing the same thing doesn't work."

Steps suggested by Prasad include:

- Transferring state or federal highways to local control so that municipalities or counties can impose more urban, pedestrian-friendly improvements.
- Installing more midblock crosswalks placed "where people are crossing."
- Installing no-turn-on-red lights that would activate when someone pushes a crosswalk button.
- Reconfiguring other streets so that pedestrians cannot cross in midblock.

As Naples injury attorneys, we have seen firsthand how devastating a crash can be. We are hopeful that the increased attention to pedestrian crashes leads to significant safety improvements.

*The [Dellutri Law Group](#) is focused on making bad situations better and putting lives back together. If you or someone you love has been seriously injured in a **Naples accident** caused by someone else's negligence, you may be entitled to compensation.*

To learn more about your legal options, contact our experienced [Naples injury attorneys](#) for a free consultation.