

## **Florida Civil Rights Association (FCRA) National Motorists Association (NMA)**

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### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

Friday, November 13, 2009

CONTACTS: J Willie David, III, State President, Florida Civil Rights Association  
(407) 272-9254, [info@fcranews.com](mailto:info@fcranews.com)  
Gary Biller, Executive Director, National Motorists Association  
(608) 849-6000, [nma@motorists.org](mailto:nma@motorists.org)  
Henry Stowe, Florida State Activist, National Motorists Association  
(407) 375-8445, [floridamotorists@gmail.com](mailto:floridamotorists@gmail.com)

ORLANDO – On Saturday, November 14, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., the Florida Civil Rights Association and the National Motorists Association will hold a Sign Waving Rally to protest Orlando's Red Light Ticket Cameras.

WHO: J Willie David, III, State President, Florida Civil Rights Association  
Executive Leaders and Members of the Florida Civil Rights Association  
Henry Stowe, Florida State Activists, National Motorists Association  
Members of the National Motorists Association  
Motorists who received Red Light Camera Tickets  
Local Pastors who oppose Red Light Cameras

WHAT: A Sign Waving Rally, Protesting Orlando's Red Light Camera Program

WHEN: Saturday, November 14, 2009, at 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Corner of Conroy and Vineland Roads, Orlando, Florida 32811

WHY: In 2005 the Florida Attorney General and in 2008 the Florida Department of Transportation issued opinions that the red light cameras are illegal and require a state law to legalize ticket enforcement. However, our local city officials found what they believe is a loop hole and went ahead with the installation of the red light cameras, without the approval of the Florida legislature.

If a motorist gets a ticket from a police officer you get your day in court, your license may be suspended, you may have to go to driver improvement courses (which is fine by the Florida Civil Rights Association). However, these types of punishments are not imposed for a ticket issued by the red light camera; therefore there is no mechanism for real punishment or rehabilitation. Paying a fine does not stop a habitual offender; it only creates a money pit for our local government. "That is not real law enforcement." In addition, cameras punish "technical foul violations" with machine like efficiency, while removing the discretion of a police officer in issuing the ticket.

The NMA and the FCRA have numerous objections to ticket cameras. These include privacy concerns, inadequate notification, failure to positively identify the driver of the vehicle, no certified witness to the alleged violation, and their negative effect on public safety. Ticket cameras pose a "clear and present danger" to our constitutional rights. Per the Federal Highway Safety Administration, rear-end crashes increased 15%, and injuries from such accidents increased 24% at 132 intersections equipped with red-light cameras. We are also concerned about yellow light duration, camera trigger grace periods, and signal light synchronization. A 57 month study of North Carolina's red light camera program termed the devices as a "detriment to safety" due to the staggering increase in collisions. Recently, in Temple Terrace, FL, increases in intersection collisions with cameras were noted while the city recorded a decrease in crashes overall. Cameras are about money, not safety.

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