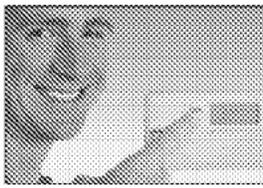


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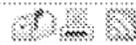
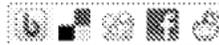
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## San Diego News

## Toyota Orders Inspections After Fiery Santee Crash

POSTED: 11:50 am PDT September 15, 2009  
 UPDATED: 12:05 pm PDT September 15, 2009



**TORRANCE, Calif.** -- Toyota has ordered dealers to inspect their cars after a floor mat was suspected of snaring the accelerator pedal of a Lexus that crashed in San Diego County and killed four.

Torrance-based Toyota Motor Sales USA announced Monday that dealers must make sure all Lexus and Toyota vehicles have the proper mats.

██████████ and his wife ██████████ both 45, their 13-year-old daughter, ██████████ and 38-year-old brother-in-law, ██████████ died Aug. 28 when a Lexus ES 350 loaned to them by Bob Baker Lexus in El Cajon crashed. The family's own vehicle was being serviced.

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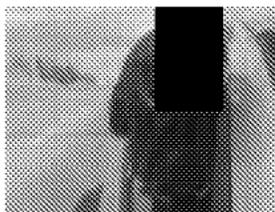
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Witnesses say the car was doing more than 120 mph when it went off an embankment in Santee.

10News obtained a copy of the 911 call made by ██████████ who described the situation to the dispatcher.

██████████ "We're on North 125 and our accelerator is stuck."

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911 Dispatcher: "I'm sorry?"

██████████ "Our accelerator is stuck. We're on 125."

911 Dispatcher: "Northbound 125. What are you passing?"

██████████ "We're going 120. Mission Gorge. We're in trouble. We can't ... there is no brakes. End freeway half mile."

911 dispatcher: "You can't do anything like turn off your engine?"

██████████ "We're approaching the intersection. We're approaching the intersection. We're approaching the intersection."

Others in the care are heard saying "hold on" and "pray."

A preliminary investigation found that their loaner car had a mat from another Lexus model that may have caused the accelerator to get stuck.

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Echo 8 Items

Admin



██████████ Why was the accelerator in the "floored" position in the first place? A seasoned driver would have had his passenger try to manually lift the accelerator. This still doesn't make a whole lot of sense, from a logical point of view.

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██████████ agree, i think there is something more than floor mats going wrong.

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██████████ i'm sure panic set in when it was partially stuck in the mat...so frantic stepping on the pedal probably made it more stuck...most people can't think fast in a panic...had my pedal stuck momentarily by the mat; i figured it out and yanked the mat out but i wasn't going fast either...so i can relate a bit.. very very sad, scary incident...

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██████████ i have a ES 330, tabs they have in place to keep the floor mats from moving fall out all the time and they have to be re-positioned, my son got his foot stuck between the acelrator and brake, he's a new driver. Next time i have my car serviced i will ask them to provide secure floor mat clips to be installed.

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██████████ those mats with tall ridges, those are the ones that could be problematic...flat ones shouldn't have any jamming problems...

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There are a few more options. Emergency brake and if it's a stick shift, down shift. If not then you pull a [redacted] from Terminator and put it in reverse. That will stop the car no doubt. Yes he did panic. You can even drift to the emergency lane and use the divider to slow down, put it in neutral and turn the car off. I guess when you are scared, it's hard to keep focus.

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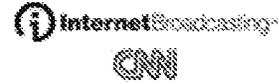
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