



NO MORE VICTIMS®

Advocacy for Leandra's Law

AIIPA Conference: May 25, 2022

Frank Harris, MADD Director of State Government Affairs

MADD efforts in 2008

- Legislation authored by Senator Fuschillo and Assemblyman Weisenberg.
- MADD supported these bills, but they did not pass.
- In the Fall 2008, MADD met with Senator Fuschillo



MADD lobby day and press event in May 2009





MADD's efforts in Summer 2009

- May: Urge stakeholders to hire lobbyist
- July: Drunk driving crash kills eight on the Taconic Parkway north of New York City. Four children killed
- August: Governor and Senate Legislation introduced on DWI child passenger safety and interlocks



September 2009

- Senate enacts an all-offender interlock bill in September
- Progress stalls in the Assembly
- Innovative ways to overcome
 - Coalition build
 - Press conferences
 - Town halls
 - Another lobby day



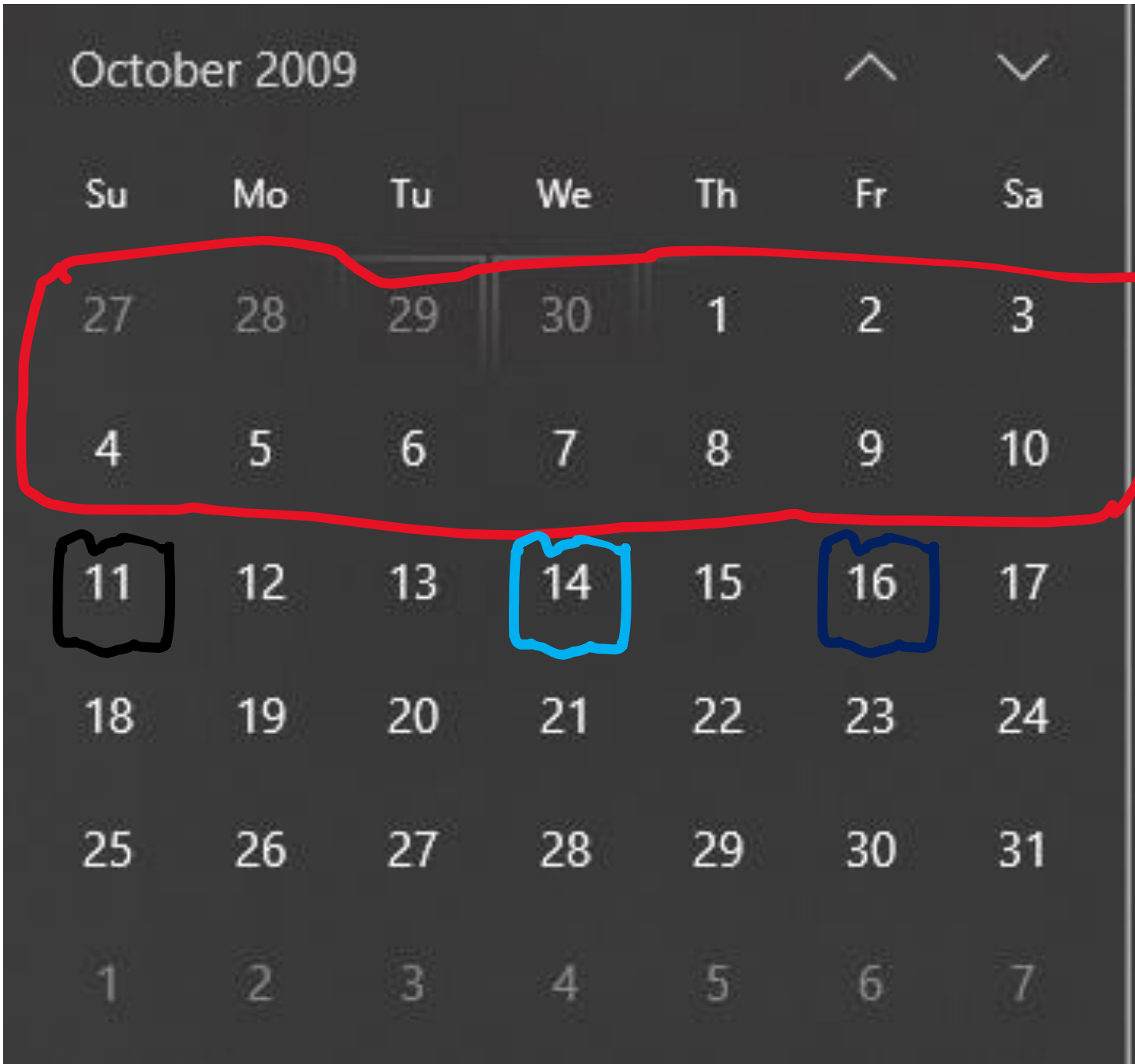
October 14, 2009 press event in Poughkeepsie

Supporters of the alcohol ignition interlock system bill, from left, Assembly Joel Miller, Community Action Leader of MADD of Dutchess County Vincent Bellino, Assemblyman Marc Molinaro, and Assemblyman Frank Skartados attend a press conference at the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office in Poughkeepsie on Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009. Source: Poughkeepsie Journal



October 16, 2009 lobby day in Albany





Planning lobby days press events, building cosponsor list.

October 14: Poughkeepsie press event

October 16: Albany lobby day

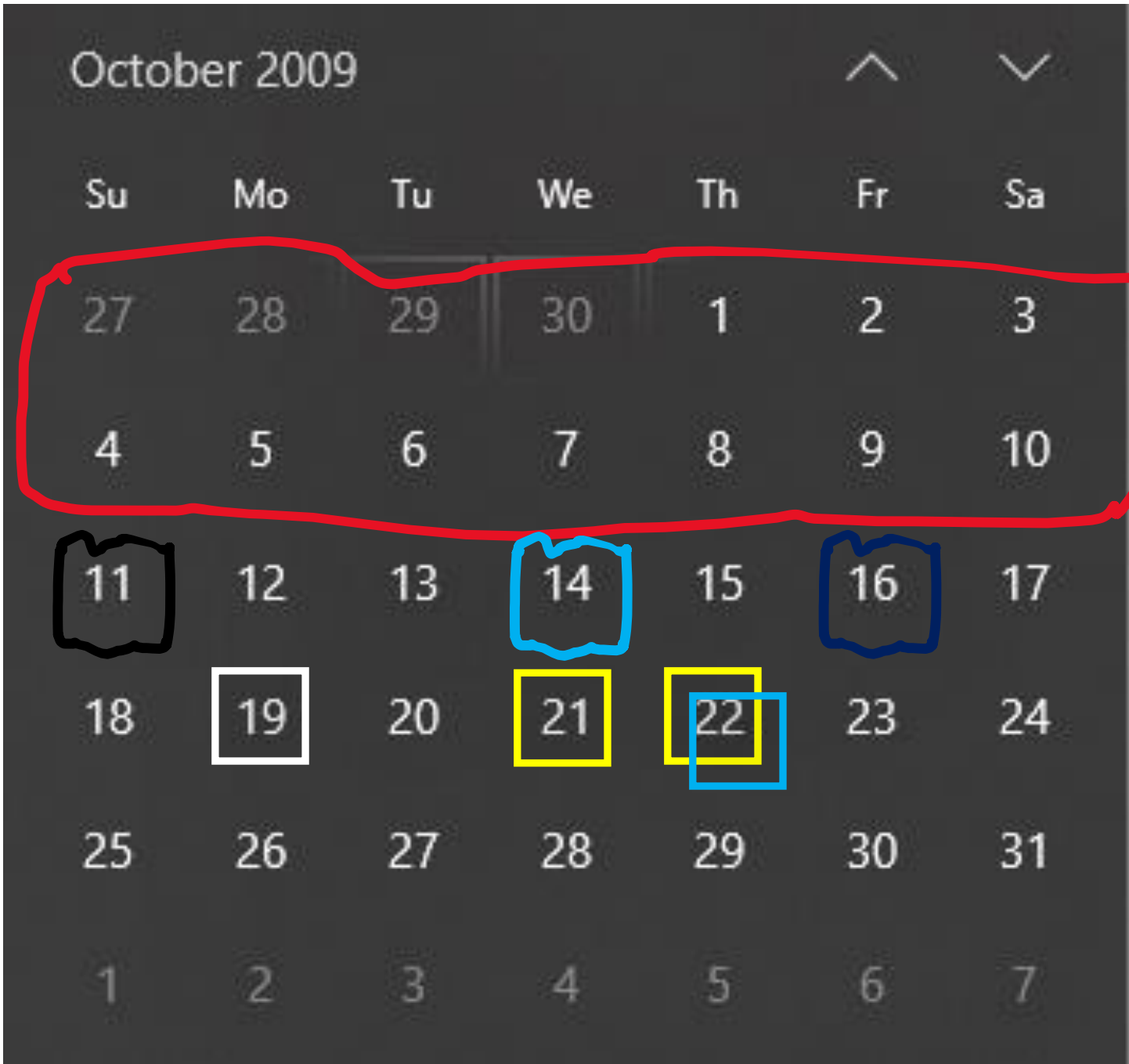
October 11: Leandra Rosado is
killed and others injured in a
drunk driving crash.

October 11, 2009

Leandra Rosado killed and other passengers are injured by a drunk driver with a blood alcohol concentration of .132.

Media attention

Lenny Rosado, father of Leandra, pushes for change



Planning lobby days press events, building cosponsor list.

October 14: Poughkeepsie press event

October 16: Albany lobby day

October 11: Leandra Rosado is killed and others injured in a drunk driving crash.

October 19: Get wind of a special session on budget issues

October 21: New York Daily News contacts MADD

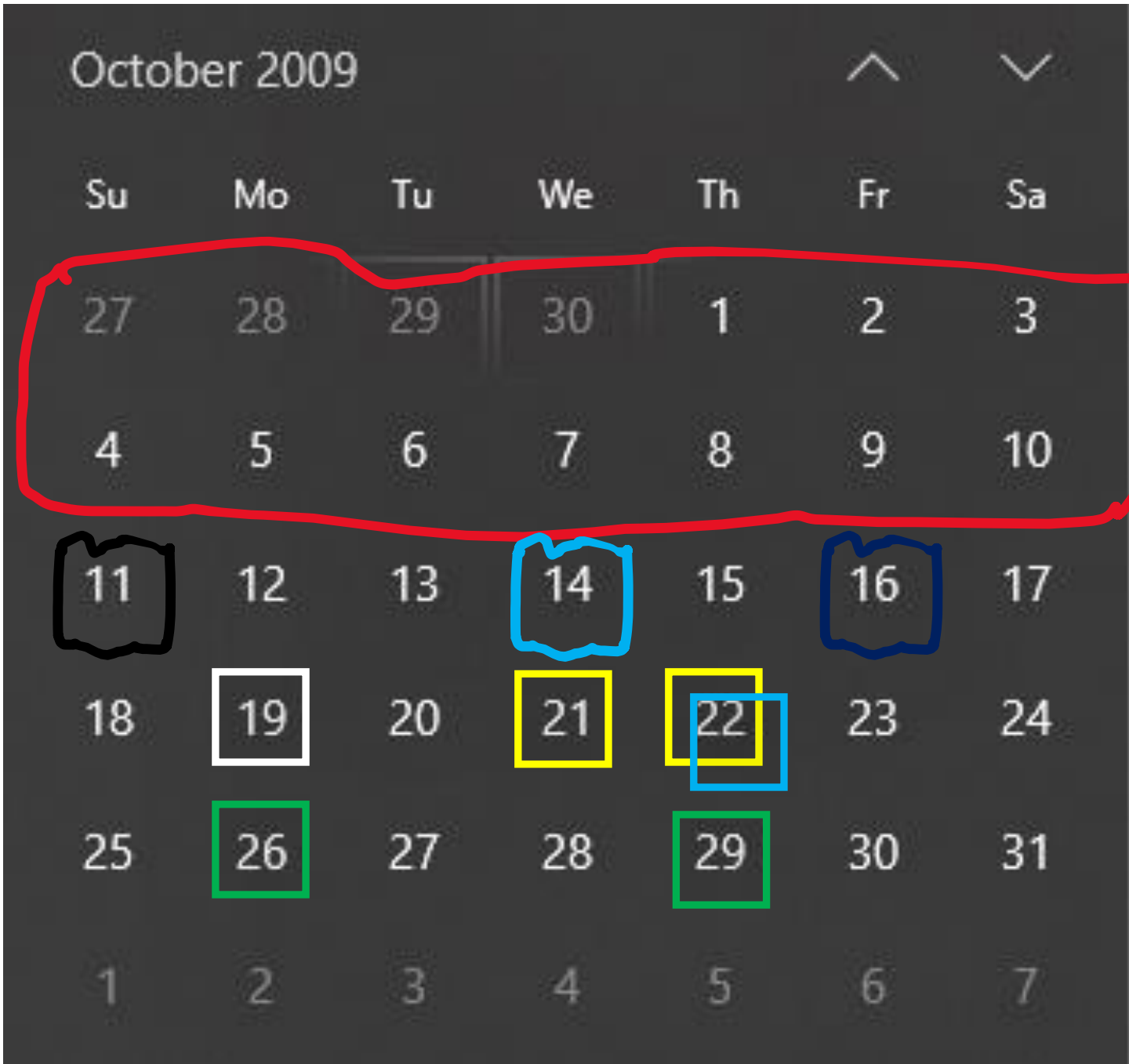
October 22: Lenny Rosado calls for passage in Leandra's Law in newspapers

October 22: NY Times Editorial for All-Offender Interlocks

Leandra's Law

Make drunk driving with a child passenger a felony offense. Pushed by Lenny Rosado. Many other key stakeholders *join* the fight.

Ignition interlocks for all convicted drunk drivers is included in this push.



Planning lobby days press events, building cosponsor list.

October 14: Poughkeepsie press event

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October 21: New York Daily News contacts MADD

October 22: Lenny Rosado calls for passage in Leandra's Law in newspapers

October 22: NY Times Editorial for All-Offender Interlocks

October 26: Fulton Youth of the Future contacts MADD

October 29: MADD speaks at Leandra's Garden Dedication

Leandra's Garden Dedication

DEDICATION OF LEANDRA'S GARDEN

FOLLOWING THE DEDICATION THERE WILL BE
A PRESS CONFERENCE WITH LENNY ROSADO
ON HIS FIGHT FOR TOUGHER LAWS FOR
DRUNK DRIVERS

PLEASE COME OUT AND
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR
LEANDRA'S LAW!!!

Place: Robert Fulton Houses
(17th Street between 9th & 10th Avenue –
Park behind 431 w 17th street)

Date: Thursday October 29th, 2009

Time: 4:00pm

For further information please contact Miguel Acevedo at 646-671-0310 or
fultonvouth@gmail.com

Leandra's Garden Dedication





Mothers Against Drunk Driving
1025 Connecticut Ave., NW, S
Washington, DC 20004
Tel: 1-800-422-4643
Fax: (202) 462-4643
www.madd.org

MADD calls for Leandra's Law and interlocks to be included in budget session

November 4, 2009

The Honorable David Paterson
Governor, State of New York
State Capitol
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Paterson,

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) applauds your leadership in the fight against drunk driving. MADD respectfully requests that you place DWI child endangerment legislation and A7196A/S27B on the calendar for the next special session. A7196A/S27B would require all convicted drunk drivers to use an alcohol ignition interlock device.

All children deserve a designated driver and driving drunk with a child in a vehicle is a form of child abuse. The horrific crash that killed 11 year old Leandra Rosado on October 11, 2009, and injured six other children reinforces the need for a DWI child endangerment law. While 35 other states have special child endangerment laws that impose higher DWI sanctions against individuals who place a child passenger at risk, New York lacks such law.

November 5: MADD has a conference call with the Governor's office, interlocks and child endangerment to be included in special session



November 6: NY Daily News runs story on upcoming special session

Hit the gas on Leandra's Law, Gov. Paterson tells pols

BY [Glenn Blain](#) and [Kenneth Lovett](#)

DAILY NEWS ALBANY BUREAU

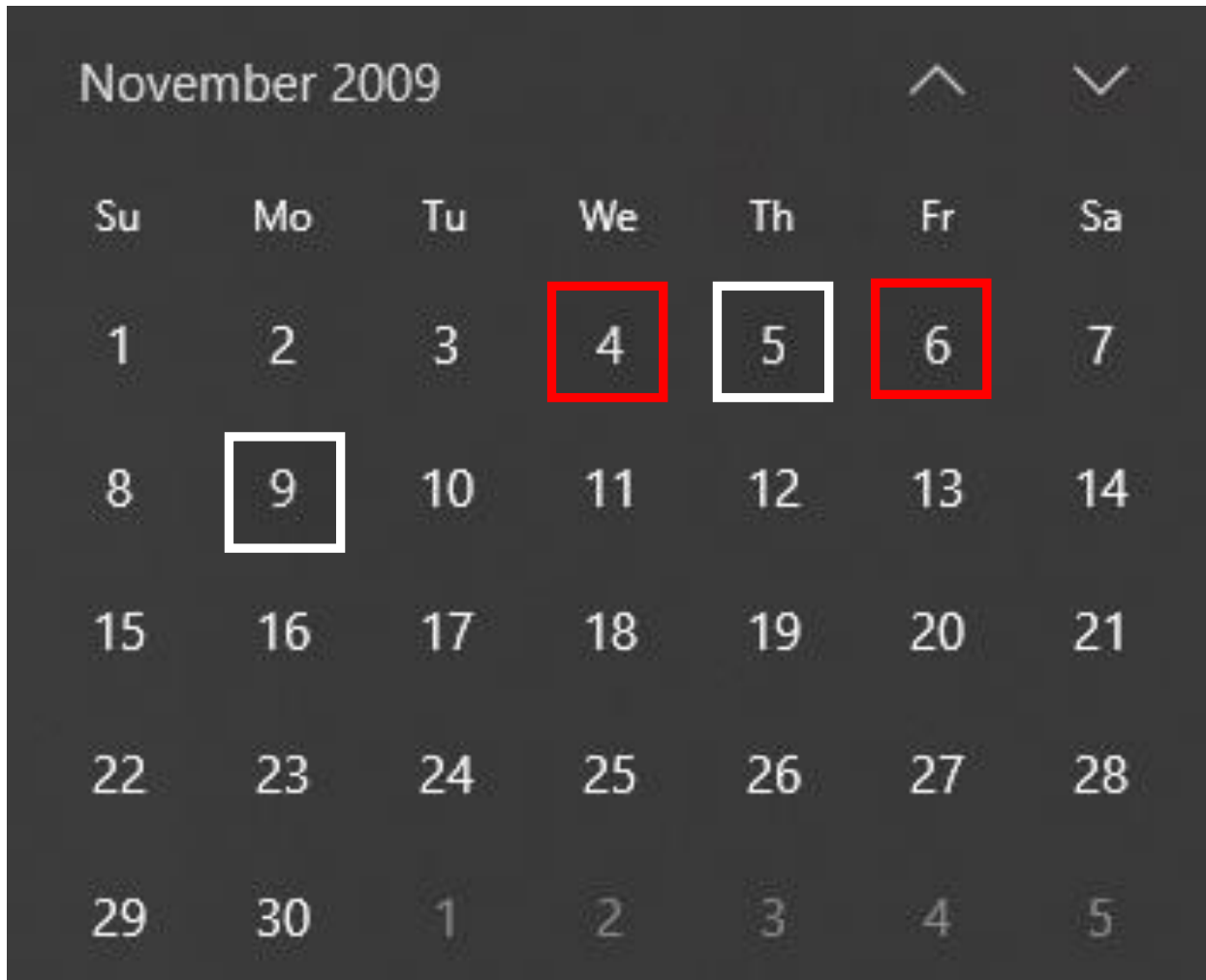
Friday, November 6th 2009, 4:00 AM

ALBANY - [Gov. Paterson](#) on Thursday formally called on legislators to pass "Leandra's Law" at a special session Tuesday.

Paterson included the measure to toughen penalties for those who drive drunk with passengers under 16 on his formal agenda for the session.

"Gov. Paterson is committed to stricter penalties for drunk drivers with children in the car, which is why he introduced a program bill on this issue on Aug. 13," spokeswoman [Marissa Shorestein](#) said.

Paterson also put on the agenda a bill requiring ignition-interlock devices on cars of anyone convicted of drunken driving.



November 4: MADD calls for interlocks and felony child endangerment to be included in special session

November 5: Conversation with Governor's office reveals felony provisions of August proposal included and some version of ignition interlocks

November 6: New York Daily News piece runs on special session Leandra's Law

November 9: Confusion Monday on compromise: Interlock in and out of bill, felony level set at .18 with Judicial discretion .08 to .17.



November 10: Compromise reached

MADD agrees to a deal: Mandate interlocks for repeat and first-time offenders with a BAC of .18 or greater and make DWI with a child passenger a felony at .18.

Possibility that interlock is taken out by Senate. MADD CEO issues a lukewarm statement for a joint press release with stakeholders and the Governor that ends the deal:

“MADD supports the Governor’s efforts to fight drunk driving in New York. MADD supports felony provisions for DWI child endangerment. MADD also supports the bill requiring interlocks for all convicted drunk drivers. We do have concerns about the limited interlock waiver provision for certain convicted drunk drivers and will carefully monitor its implementation.”



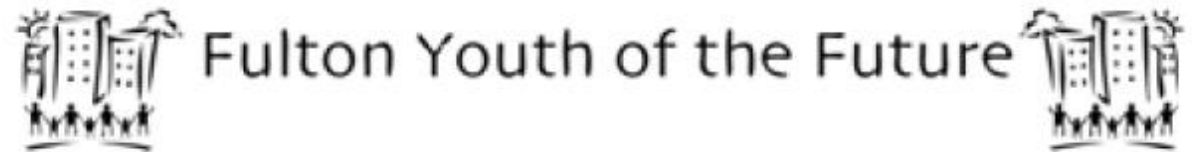
November 10: Advocacy for reform in Albany

As compromise breaks down, MADD, Lenny Rosado, and others advocate in-person at the Capitol.

Lenny Rosado meets Speaker Silver in-person. Speaker Silver issues the following statement: “I met this afternoon with Leandra's father, Lenny Rosado, and committed to him that we would pass Leandra's Law. I think we owe it to Leandra to do all we can to protect children against drunk drivers.”



November 10: Back to square one, call for passage



MADD, FULTON YOUTH OF THE FUTURE CALL ON NY LEGISLATURE TO ACT ON DWI REFORM

Urges Passage Leandra's Law and Ignition Interlocks for All Convicted DWI Offenders

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 10, 2009

CONTACTS:

Frank Harris, MADD National, (202) 974-2471

Jesse Campoamor, Fulton Youth of the Future, (917) 734-5075

Thomas McCoy, MADD Long Island, (631) 547-6233

November 12: MADD meeting with Speaker Silver's staff in New York City

- Meeting was planned weeks ahead of time
- Myself, MADD Manhattan Volunteer Leader Peggy Lang, and an interlock vendor attended to meet with Staff
- Speaker Silver walked by the meeting room and did not stop by to say hi
- No promises made
- MADD calls the New York Daily News immediately following the meeting



November 12: MADD speaks with NY Daily News immediately after meeting

MADD to Sheldon Silver: Please don't water down 'Leandra's Law' bill

BY [Kenneth Lovett](#)
DAILY NEWS ALBANY BUREAU CHIEF

Friday, November 13th 2009, 4:00 AM



"There's convincing that needs to be done in the Assembly, and that's what MADD has been trying to do," MADD state policy specialist Frank Harris said.

In pushing for the tougher law, MADD has joined with Lenny Rosado, whose 11-year-old daughter Leandra was killed in a drunken-driving accident last month on the Henry Hudson Parkway.

"MADD supports Lenny Rosado, we support making it a felony to drive drunk with a child in a vehicle, and MADD supports Leandra's Law," Harris said.

MADD, Rosado and Fulton Youth for the Future are organizing a rally in front of Silver's offices today.

MADD also wants lawmakers to require installation of ignition interlocks on vehicles belonging to any convicted drunken driver.

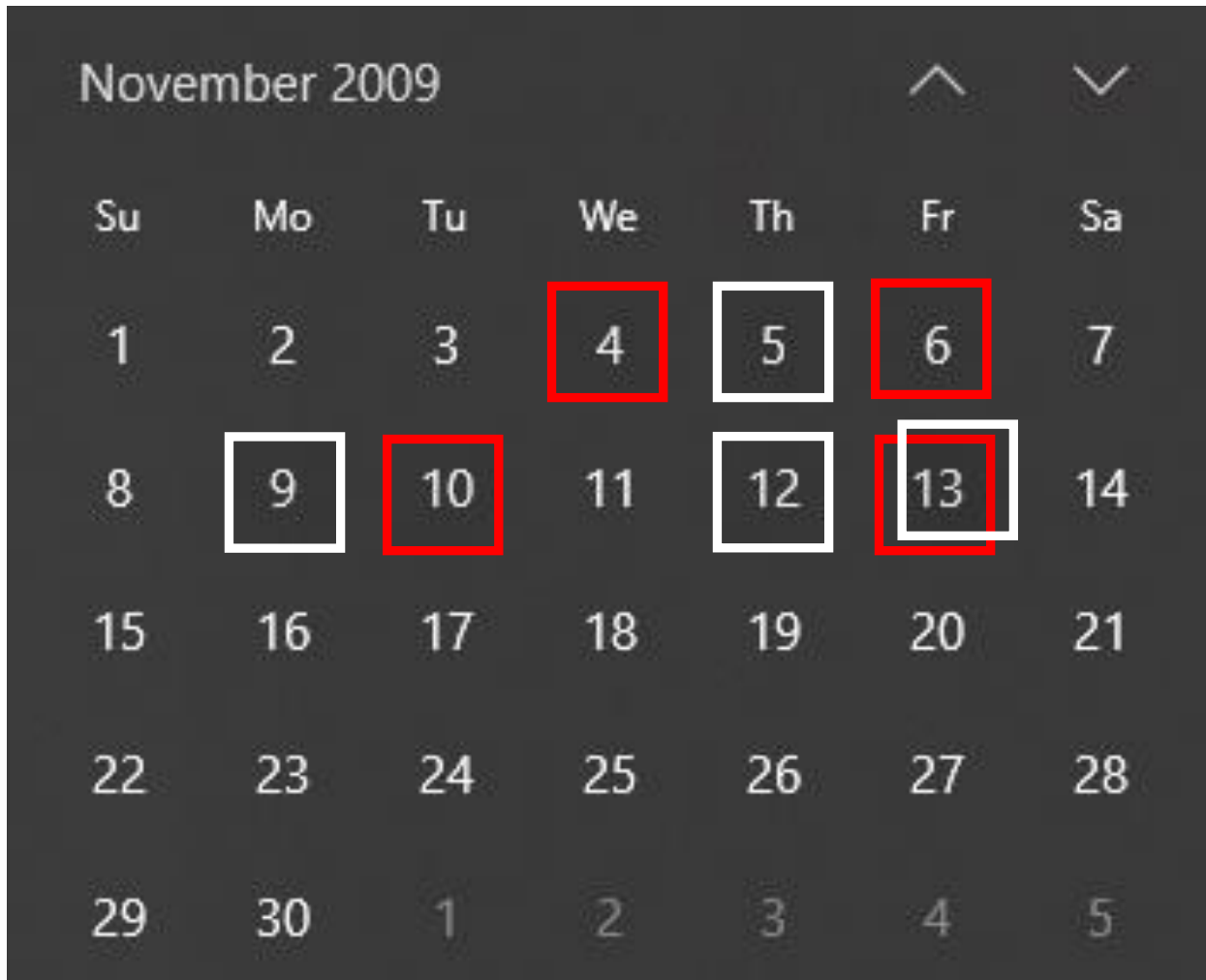
"This is about saving lives and preventing future instances of people dying," Harris said.

November 13: Protest in front of Speaker's Office



Source:
New York
Daily News





November 13: After protest and meeting, I speak on the phone: Daily News Editor, Speaker's Office, Daily's News Editor, my boss, Travel agent to back to Albany next week, take train home.

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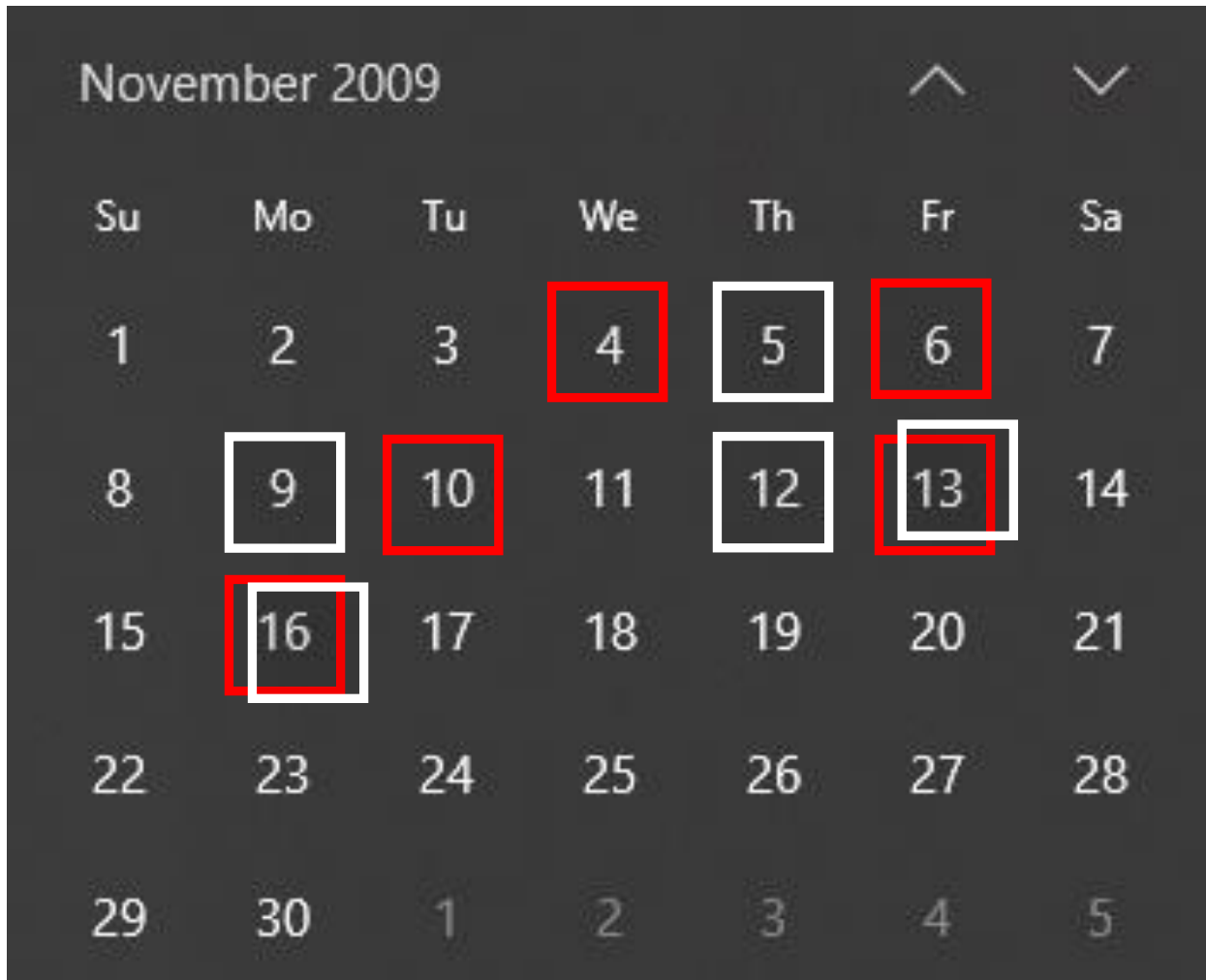
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November 10: Compromised reached, deal is off, advocacy efforts continue in Albany, meet with Speaker Silver

November 12: MADD meets with Speaker's office in NYC, Daily News, coordinate protest. **Now Leandra's Law includes interlocks.**

November 13: Protest in NYC at Speaker's office, media coverage, 400 handouts, meet with Speaker's staff.





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November 13: After protest and meeting, I speak on the phone: Daily News Editor, Speaker's Office, Daily's News Editor, my boss.

November 16: Meet with Speaker Silver, other lawmakers, staff, stakeholders, no deal before dinner
November 16 PM: Speaker calls MADD CEO, deal reached.



November 17: Press event with Speaker Silver



November 18: Leandra's Law signed



November 18: Leandra's Law signed into law



November 18: Leandra's Law signed



Leandra's Law: key players

Lenny Rosado

Governor Paterson and staff

Senator Fuschillo and staff

Assemblyman Weisenberg

Senator Dilan

NY Daily News

MADD

District Attorneys Association of the State of New York

Fulton Youth of the Future

Interlock companies



Leandra's Law making a difference?

Only 26% of arrested DWI offenders are installing an ignition interlock.

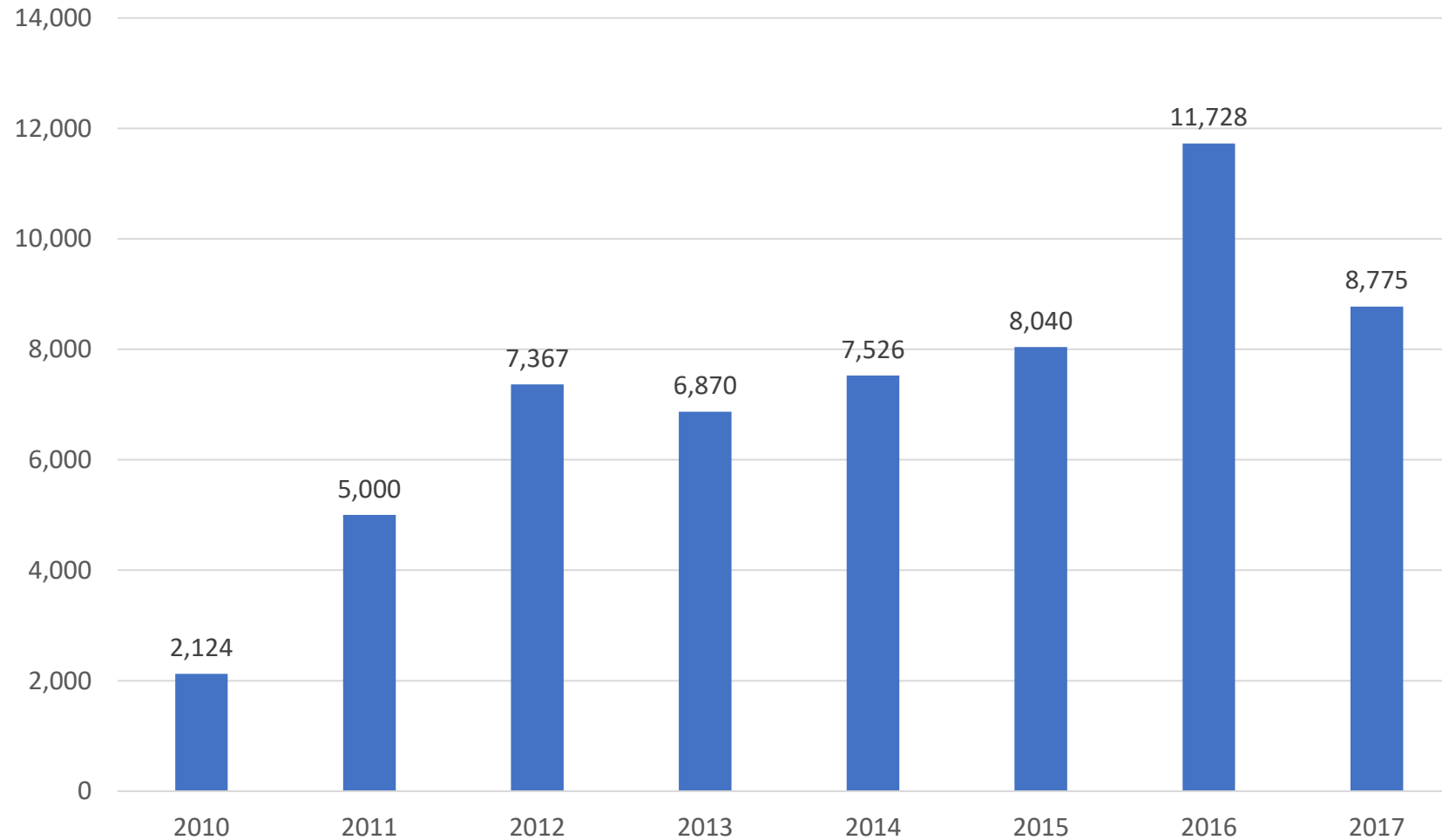
Ignition interlocks have stopped tens of thousands attempts to drive drunk, around 7,000 to 8,000 per year.

From data collected by MADD of interlock vendors from December 2006 to 2020, these devices stopped 111,000 drunk driving attempts (.08 BAC or greater).

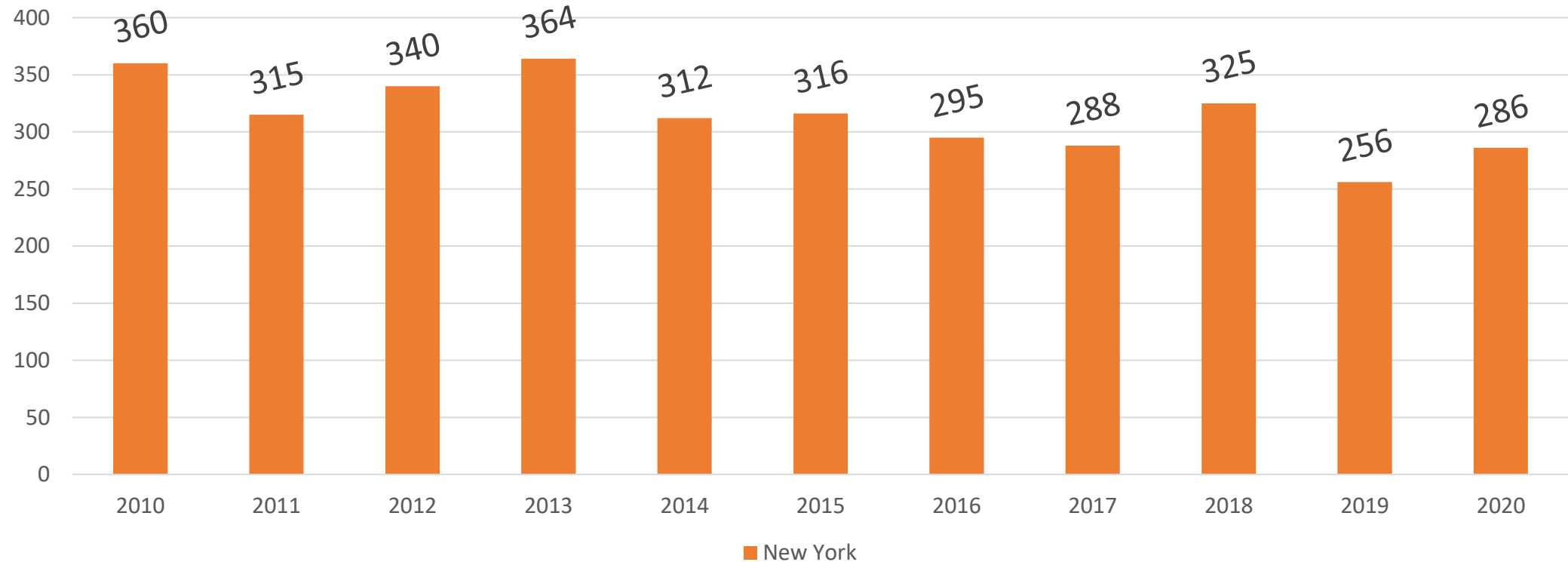
From data collected by MADD of interlock vendors from December 2006 to 2020, these devices stopped 550,000 drinking and driving attempts (.02 BAC or greater)



New York Interlock Installs (Source: Roth, TIRF)



New York Drunk Driving Deaths (NHTSA)



In New York from 2010 to 2020, drunk driving deaths decreased by 20%.

Nationally, from 2010 to 2020 drunk driving deaths increased 15%.*

If only looking from 2010 to 2019, USA drunk driving deaths increased by .59%.

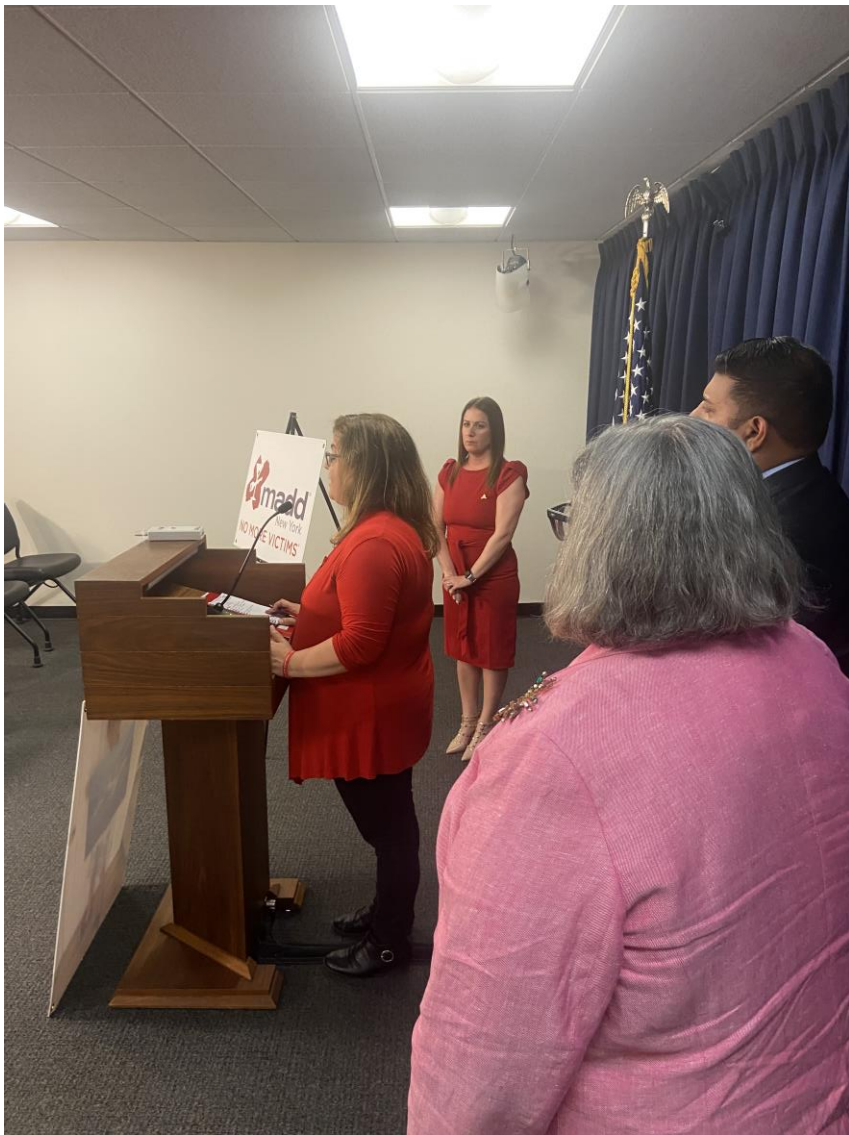
Post-Leandra's Law advocacy efforts: 2012- 2013

In 2012 and 2013, MADD
successfully pushed for an
improvement to the law.



MADD
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Post-Leandra's Law advocacy efforts: 2019 to current



MADD is working this year to enact Assembly Bill 1325 and Senate Bill 6598 to close loopholes in the law





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THANK YOU!

511 E. John Carpenter Freeway Suite 700 Irving, TX 75062 • 877.ASK.MADD • 877.MADD.HELP • madd.org