



April 28, 2016

The Honorable Elliot F. Kaye
Chairman
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
4330 East West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814

Dear Chairman Kaye,

As mothers of Shane, Meghan and Chance who were killed in a furniture tip-over, you know how important this issue is to us. We have worked together and separately to spread the word to more families so they can avoid the tragedies our families faced and will endure the rest of our lives.

That is why we wholeheartedly support CPSC's Anchor It! Campaign. The video we taped with you has reached thousands of parents and has already made an impact saving innumerable children. We hear from families telling us how moved they are to take action based on our stories.

We were devastated by the news of another death involving the IKEA Malm dresser. Even with the announcement of the education campaign and good work done by CPSC and IKEA to spread the word, these parents didn't hear the message.

Anchoring furniture is only one part of the solution. New furniture must be made to avoid tip-overs in normal use situations. While we have no way to know if it would have made a difference, calling the strap program a recall, along with stopping sale of dressers that don't meet the current voluntary industry standard might have drawn more attention to the dangers of these dressers and reached this family.

The testing in the current industry standard calls for a dresser to withstand a 50 pound weight on an open drawer without tipping. At 22 months old, it is unlikely the child in the most recent death would have reached that weight and tipped the dresser.

We urge CPSC to not only continue and strengthen the Anchor It campaign, but to encourage manufacturers to make furniture that meets the current voluntary industry standard. Further we urge you to work toward a strong mandatory standard and hope to see movement in that area this year.

We would hope to see action on the repair plan developed with IKEA to properly label it a recall and hopefully get more dressers anchored or removed from homes before we see another death.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Amato, Meghan's mom
Meghan's Hope

Keisha Bowles, Chance's mom
Another Day, Another Chance

Lisa Siefert, Shane's mom
Shane's Foundation, NFP