

Honda vs. Jaguar Collision Takes Out Service Center Window

By JENNIFER YEH

(Jan. 9, 2003) At approximately 10 p.m. on Dec. 8, an out-of-control car crashed into the MTA Customer Service Center on the corner of Wilshire and La Brea, smashing through the front window.

The car, a red Honda Civic, was heading north on La Brea when the driver sped through a red light into the oncoming traffic.

A brand new silver Jaguar traveling west on Wilshire smashed into the Honda, spinning it out of control and into the Customer Service Center.

There were bystanders on the street corner, but fortunately no one was hit or injured.

The three people in the Jaguar suffered no serious injuries. The driver and passenger in the Honda were transported to Cedars Sinai Hospital.

Reopened next day

Despite the mess that the accident caused, the Customer Service Center was still able to open its doors the very next morning, thanks to General Services Supervisor Joe Coleman, Director of Facilities Maintenance Don Ott and other staff members who helped clean up the debris and board up the opening.

The estimated cost for repair was approximately \$5,000.

"This is not the first time that a car has crashed into our building there," says Gail Harvey, Customer and Vendor Services manager.

Customer Service Agent Kevin Moore says it's lucky people weren't in the building both times. If someone had been in there, they could have been injured or killed.

Following the accident, Moore came up with the idea of placing several pillars in front of the building's windows to minimize potential damages and injury to those inside.

To reward Moore for his suggestion, Customer and Vendor Services Communications Manager Vanessa Smith presented him with a Safety Recognition Award.

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Several pillars now stand in front of the Wilshire Customer Center to protect the building from future accidents. Below, Customer Services Communications Manager Vanessa Smith presents Customer Service Agent Kevin Moore with a safety recognition award for the suggestion to place several pillars in front of the building's windows.

