



DOT Auto Safety Hotline
Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
TO REPORT VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS
1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

Date Received

273 JUN 16 2003

Od_or _____
n_dt _____
od_rt _____
up_itr _____

Reference No.

10024056

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name

Apt. No.

Daytime Telephone Number

PLANTATION

State FL

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? YES NO
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.

Signature of Owner

4/1/91/03

Vehicle Identification No. (VIN) (Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side)

Make

FORD

Model

CROWN VICTORIA

Year

2000

2FAFP74W8YX159221

Purchased Date

1/31/01

Dealer's Name

MARANO OF MARBATE

Engine Size (CID/CC/L)

Turbo
 Diesel
 Gas
 Fuel Injection

Dealer's City

MARBATE

State

FL

Zip Code

32063

No. Cylinders

3

Manufacture Date (on driver's door or pillar)

01/00

Transmission Type

Manual
 Automatic

Restraint System

Driverside Air Bag Motorbelt
 Passengerside Air Bag 2-Point Belt
 3-Point Belt

Cruise Control

Yes
 No

Drivetrain

Front
 Rear
 4-Wheel

Vehicle Type

Car Sport Utility
 Van Truck
 Minivan Motorcycle
 Other

Body Style

2-Door 4-Door
 Stationwagon
 Pick-Up Truck
 Other

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Part Name(s)

RF: GAS TANK

Location

Left Right
 Front Rear

Failed Part(s)

Original
 Replacement

Handicap Adaptive Equip

Yes
 No

TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Brand

Tire Name

Complete Tire Size

DOT No.

No. of Failures

Date(s) of Failure(s)

Mileage at Failure(s)

Vehicle Speed at Failure(s):

Failed Part(s) Available?

Yes No

NHTSA Previously Contacted?

Yes No

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies). Attach photos if available.)

Crash

Yes No

Fine

Yes No

Number of Persons Injured

NONE

Number of Fatalities

NONE

Reported to Manufacturer

Yes No

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies). AFTER HEARING THAT FORD WAS GOING TO MODIFY THE GAS TANKS ON POLICE CARS, I CONTACTED THE DEALER AND FORD AND SAID I WANTED MY CAR TO GET THE SAME RECALL. I WAS TOLD THAT FORD ONLY HAD THROUGH KITS FOR THE POLICE CARS. I ALSO REQUESTED TO PAY FOR THE WORK. I ALSO CONTACTED NHTSA AND SAID THE CAR WAS SAFE. PLEASE SEE ATTACHED COPY OF ADVICE FROM THE NY STATE CHIEF OF POLICE. THE CHIEF REPORTED THAT A NYC CITY CAR DRIVER WAS BLIND TO DEATH AFTER HIS CROWN VIC TRUCK WAS STRUCK AT THE SAME TIME.

I ALSO HEARD THE DEALER PERFORMED THE MODIFICATION WITH I STAFFED BY TO BE ABOUT IT. THEY SAID THAT THEY HAD PARTS AND AS I WAS TOLD ONE TO COMPLAIN THEY SAID THEY DID THE JOB FOR ABOUT \$150. IT SEEMS THEY ARE ALSO MODIFYING FRONT CARS. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE HOW ALL OF YOU CAN SAY THESE CARS ARE SAFE. I WANT TO BE SURE NO MORE CARS HAVE THE SAME ISSUE. ONLY ABOUT 1000 OF THE HIT CARS EVEN IF YOU ONLY DRIVE ONE DAY A WEEK. YOU MIGHT NOT THINK MANY CROWN VICS AND CROWN MARQUEES (CROWN CARS) ARE DRIVEN BY SCHOOL BUSES. PEOPLE THUS BEING THROUGHLY UP TO BE RECALLED. IF FORD REFUSES TO FIX ALL THESE CARS, THEY AT LEAST SHOULD LET THE OWNERS KNOW OF THIS CONDITION AND OFFER FIX THE CARS AT THE OWNERS EXPENSE.

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-576 This information is requested pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies)

I MIGHT ADD THAT VIRTUALLY NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT THE TANK PROBLEM. FORD SHOULD NOT SIT ON THIS LIKE THEY DID WITH THE EXPLORER'S ROLL-OVER PROBLEMS COMPOUNDED BY DEFECTIVE TIRES. I AM --> ENOUGH TO DEBARRON THE PICKUP TRUCKS WITH GAS TANKS IN AN ERGONIC POSITION AND THE PINTO. WHY MUST ^{THEY} WAIT UNTIL FORD IS HIT BY MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR NEGLIGENCE LAWS SUITS BEFORE THEY DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

YOU MIGHT NOTE THAT, TO MY KNOWLEDGE, THEY ARE STILL PULLING NEW CARS WITHOUT THIS IMPROVEMENT. THE SET TO DO THIS ON THE ASSEMBLY LINE ON EVERY CAR WOULD BE A FRACTION OF WHAT I WAS CHARGED. NOTE THAT THE NEW YORK TIMES DIRECTLY REFERS TO THE SAFETY OF THE CARS AND THE NEED TO MAKE THEM SAFER.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

400 Seventh St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20590

Official Business Penalty for Private Use \$300



NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO 73173 WASHINGTON, D.C.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY NATL. HWY. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.



U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation, NSA-10.01
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Complete and return or place in your car manual for future use

VEHICLE OWNER'S QUESTIONNAIRE (VQO)

DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE

TO REPORT VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS COMPLETE THIS FORM OR

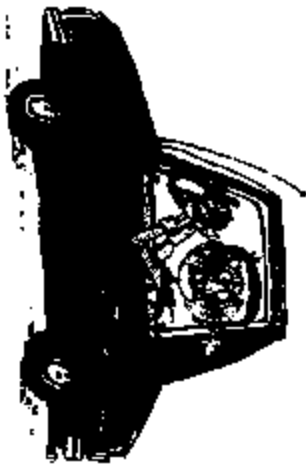
DASH 2 DOT

and dial toll free at

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1-888-327-4236

DOT Auto Safety Hotline (DASH) & DOT



U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

N.Y. Times 1/3/03

Police Scramble to Make Patrol Cars Safer

By COREY KILGANNON

With serious questions raised about the safety of the Crown Victoria, the Ford sedan that is popular as a police patrol car, the New York Police Department and other major police forces in the metropolitan region are scrambling to make their Crown Victoria cruisers safer.

Concern about the model's safety has grown since Dec. 19, when a Crown Victoria patrol car used by a state trooper was struck from behind on the New York State Thruway in Yonkers and burst into flames, killing the trooper and two other people.

Some troopers blamed the fire on the Crown Victoria's oddly positioned gas tank and refused to drive their cruisers until the tanks were equipped with protective shields.

On Friday, New York Police Department officials said that all of the department's 1,439 Crown Victoria cruisers would have the shield installed within a week.

"We are aware of the concerns and have taken the appropriate steps to make sure all of our vehicles are safe," said the department's chief spokesman, Michael O'Looney.

A day earlier, New York State Police officials said that their 828 Crown Victoria cruisers would be fitted with the shields within a week.

New Jersey State Police officials said that they had begun installing the shield on their 1,000 Crown Victorias before the fatal accident last month, and police departments in Nassau and Suffolk Counties are either equipping or have equipped their cars with the shield.

With its roomy interior and V-8 engine, Ford's burly Crown Victoria is the most popular model of police cruiser in the country.

But some safety advocates call the car a death trap for police officers. The model, they say, has its gas tank wedged in a "crumple zone," be-



John Marshall Mandel for The New York Times

All of the Ford Crown Victoria patrol cars in the New York Police Department's fleet will be equipped with shields to protect the gas tank

between the trunk and the rear axle.

Critics call that design a defect that can lead to an explosion or fire from a rear-end collision, and one that has, in recent years, caused 13 other similar police deaths nationwide.

Yesterday, a Ford spokeswoman, Kristen Kinley, called the Crown Victoria a safe car that happens to be thrust into dangerous situations and often exposed to speeding vehicles. The officers killed by gas tank fires were victims of "rare and extreme" circumstances required by police work, she said.

"This is a safe vehicle that exceeds federal safety standards," she said. "The accidents we've seen have been extremely high-speed rear-end crashes."

In September, Ford officials began notifying police departments across the country that the company would provide and install shields free in all

Crown Victoria cruisers.

The Crown Victoria has also become the backbone of New York City's yellow cab fleet. Most of the cabs, 11,412 in all, are Crown Victorias. Some residents have voiced concerns about the safety of them.

On Friday, Matthew W. Daus, chairman of the Taxi and Limousine Commission, said the city was looking into the safety of Crown Victoria cabs.

"Due to some initial concerns, the T.L.C. recently met with engineers from Ford," and has also sought information from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Mr. Daus said. "We are currently awaiting further data from Ford as we will continue to follow up with them on this issue."

"At present, however," Mr. Daus said, "there is no information to suggest that taxi passengers or drivers need to be unduly alarmed."

[REDACTED]
Spring Glen NY
June 2, 2003
[REDACTED]

NH TSA

Sirs,
Enclosed is a copy of my submission dated
4/9/03. You just sent another form so perhaps
you didn't receive the original submission.

Please note that until sometime in Oct 2003, I am
at the above address.

Yours truly
[REDACTED]