



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

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 1368

Date Received: 14-OCT-2004  
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**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: PORTAGE State: MI Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Evening Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle?  
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.  
Signature of Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10/29/04

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side: 1DB-B5SD941  
Make: DODGE Model: DURANGO Model Year: 2004  
Date Purchased: \_\_\_\_\_ Dealer's Name and Telephone Number: HAROLD DEGLER  
Original Owner:  Dealer's City: PLAINWELL State: MI Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Transmission Type: AUTOMATIC  Antilock Brakes Powertrain: \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle Component Code: 103000 POWER TRAIN: AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION  
 Cruise Control Multiple Failures: 1

**FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION**

Incident Date(s): 22-SEP-2004 Failure Mileage: 5680 Failure Speed: 0

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE**

Tire Make: \_\_\_\_\_ The Model (Name or Number): \_\_\_\_\_ The Size (Example P215/65R15): \_\_\_\_\_  
DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036)  Original Equipment  Prior Repair Failure Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tire Component Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Tire Failure Type: \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE**

Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Manufactured: \_\_\_\_\_ Model No./Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Seat Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Installation System: \_\_\_\_\_  
Child Seat Component Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Failed Part: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION**

(Please describe in detail the accident, failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies).  
Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e., parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).  
Crash:  Yes  No Fire:  Yes  No  
Number of Persons Injured: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Deaths: \_\_\_\_\_ Reported to Police: N  
Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies):  
THE VEHICLE SLIPPED OUT OF PARK WITHOUT WARNING. THE CONSUMER WAS ABLE TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE VEHICLE. \*JR

Include, if available, Police/Fire Department Reports, Photos, and Repair Invoices. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY.  
The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-502) provides that information requested herein is to be used by you in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent proceedings. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the 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.

Details of Accident Event in September 2004  
Attachment

- The Dodge Durango, 2004, was parked in the middle bay of a 3-car garage, each bay having its own garage door .
- , had entered the car with 3 children, .  
and was in the drivers seat, were in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Row and  
was in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Row on the driver's side.
- After starting to Reverse (approximately 1 foot in Reverse) , indicated that he was having problems with his seat belt and that it was not properly latched.
- put the car into "P" Park, unlatched her seat belt, opened her driver's door, exited the car, went back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Row drivers -side door, opened that door and reached in to begin buckling the child safety latch.
- At that point, approximately 8 seconds after the car had been standing still , the Durango began reversing, trapping between the car door and the garage wall, due to the angle of the door.
- Though the door began to crush between the door and the garage bay divider, the door eventually disengaged from the pressure against the structure.
- When that happened was able to become un-trapped, pushing the unhinged door and go around to the passenger side 1<sup>st</sup> Row door and stop the Car.