



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

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

AUG 31 2005

NVS-216 et
Ref. No. 10117289

[REDACTED]
El Cerrito, CA [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence dated April 26, 2005, concerning the problem you encountered with your 2003 Toyota Camry vehicle. Your correspondence was received on May 10, 2005. Due to limited resources we were not able to respond to you in a more timely manner. We regret any inconvenience our delay may have caused you.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain serious safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. We also monitor the adequacy of manufacturers' recall campaigns. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, we look carefully at the body of consumer complaints and other available data to determine whether a defect may exist. We cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

We appreciate this report and the previous report you filed with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Vehicle Safety Hotline (Hotline) on April 1, 2005. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. Each report is analyzed and entered into a database to help us determine whether an investigation into a possible safety defect is warranted.

On March 3, 2004, NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) opened a preliminary evaluation investigation (PE04-021) into reports alleging throttle control system failures (i.e., the engine speed increases without pressing on the accelerator or the engine speed fails to decrease when the accelerator pedal is no longer depressed) in 2002 and 2003 Toyota Camry, Toyota Solara, and Lexus ES300 vehicles. On July 22, 2004, ODI closed PE04-021 without the determination that a safety defect exists within the subject vehicles. For your information, we have enclosed the opening and closing resumes for PE04-021.

Recently, on August 5, 2005, ODI received a defect petition (DP05-002) requesting an investigation into problems associated with the throttle control system in 2002 through 2005



DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE
888-DASH-2-DOT
888-327-4236

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Mr. Harue C. Nielsen

Toyota and Lexus vehicles, or to reopen PE04-021. ODI is evaluating the petition and all other available information; however, no determinations to grant this petition have been reached at this time. For your information, we have enclosed a copy of the opening resume for DP05-002.

Should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment in the future, you can contact our toll-free Hotline at 1-888-327-4236. One of our representatives may be able to assist you on matters concerning motor vehicle and motor vehicle equipment safety recalls or to report an alleged safety problem. You can also request safety information. If our telephones are busy, or you call during non-working hours, you can leave your name, telephone number, and a brief subject on our recording system. A Hotline representative will return your call.

Additionally, as you are already aware have an Internet Web site at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov> that you may want to visit. An electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire (VOQ) is also available on this Web site at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq>. This form is for vehicle owners to report safety related problems about their motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment, e.g., child safety seats, jacks, tires, brake fluid, etc. The reports submitted are transferred to our database and are used to identify safety-related defect trends that require our attention. Also, a summary listing of vehicle owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc., can be obtained at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems>.

If further assistance is needed, please contact Mr. Michael J. Jordan, Safety Defects Program Assistant, Correspondence Research Division, Office of Defects Investigation, at (202) 493-0576.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alberto A. Jimenez", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Alberto A. Jimenez, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

Enclosures