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April 26, 2005

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

RE: 2003 Toyota Camry Automobile
Vin: 4T1BF30K83U
Failure: Speed Control & Brakes

QAR #
10117289

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter supersedes the Questionnaire received in response to my April 1st 2005 telephone call to you (your Agency Use Only No. 100222, Reference No. 10117289). The information on this form was totally inaccurate so this is being sent instead.

On Wednesday, March 16th 2005, as I was driving home on Seaview Drive in El Cerrito from my Berkeley dental appointment, my Toyota Camry automobile, without any warning, suddenly accelerated with a loud roar and at such great speed that the car shook violently as I neared the crest of the hill (a 20 MPH zone) close to my home. I depressed the brake pedal but it went down to the floor and did not stop. Seaview Drive ends at Terrace Drive and I normally make a right turn there (after stopping at the stop sign at the end of Seaview Drive) but because of the great speed at which the car was travelling I was afraid it would flip over.

At this point I had a choice of either hitting a stone wall and house or making a right turn hoping the car would stay upright and that the oncoming cars would stop while I got back to my side of the street. I was certain I would hit the cars parked alongside the far side of the street when I made the hard right turn, but fortunately I did not (a couple of cars did stop) and just as suddenly as it started accelerating the car stopped accelerating and I was able to steer it to the curb. I was so shaken I did not want to drive the car the few houses to my home but I did. I immediately had the car towed to the Toyota dealership in Berkeley, where they told me the next day that their expert checked it out and found nothing abnormal. The receipt I picked up the following week showed it was idling high.

My understanding is that NHTSA opened the Investigation of 2003 Toyota Camry automobiles On March 3rd 2004 and closed it July 22nd 2004. I urge you to please reopen the investigation before more serious accidents occur. A recall of these automobiles is in order. The public is being put in great danger. I may not be able to avoid an accident the next time this happens.

Maria
5/11/05