

**NHTSA ccmMercury Routing Slip**



*Congressional*

Printed: 7/20/2005

NHTSA #: ES05-006300	Rec'd Date: 7/20/2005	Referred By: NEC-110
XREF #:	Doc Type: CNG	Doc Date: 6/14/2005
Delivery: REG	Address To:	Due Date: 7/29/2005
S10 #:	DOTA #:	RMP #:
Subject: LTR FM [REDACTED] (MD) RE THE DEFECTIVE FRONT RIGHT DAYTIME RUNNING LAMP ON HIS 2002 VW PASSAT; REPLY TO THE TIMONIUM DISTRICT OFC		
Ack Date: 7/12/2005	Ack By: DONALD CLARK/FTA	Signed For:
Sign Office: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS	Signature: HARRINGTON	
Cleared Date:	Cleared By:	Cleared For:
File Loc:	XREF File:	Closed Date:
Added By: SHARRIS x62534	Modified By: SHARRIS	
Most Recent Comment:		

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 375 WEST PADONIA ROAD, SUITE 200  
 TIMONIUM, MD 21093  
 Tel: 410-628-2701 Fax: 410-628-2708 E-mail:

10130219

Assigned To	Task	Asgn Date	Deadline	Returned Date
NVS-200	REPLY	7/20/2005	7/29/2005	
NVS-010	INFORMATION	7/20/2005		7/20/2005
NOA-010	INFORMATION	7/20/2005		7/20/2005
NIA-110	INFORMATION	7/20/2005		7/20/2005
I10	INFORMATION	7/20/2005		7/20/2005
I20	INFORMATION	7/20/2005		7/20/2005

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
 2005 JUL 20 P 3 38  
 NATIONAL TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.

2005 JUL 21 AM 3:11

*Maxine*  
7/21/05  
*SDH*

Reply To:  
1630 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-3061  
FAX: (202) 225-3034

THE ATHLON  
876 WEST PADONIA ROAD, SUITE 200  
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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2002

C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER  
2ND DISTRICT, MARYLAND

ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC WHIP

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE  
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NATIONAL SECURITY, EMERGING THREATS,  
AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

05 JUN 30 AM 10:39

CONG. CORRES. BRANCH

6349816

June 14, 2005

Ms. Deborah P. Majoras  
Chairman  
Federal Trade Commission  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20580-0002

Dear Ms. Majoras:

I have been in receipt of correspondence from Mr. [REDACTED]  
regarding the safety of the Volkswagen Passat.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding Mr. [REDACTED]'s letter to your office  
for further review.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

*C.A. Dutch Ruppensberger*

C.A. Dutch Ruppensberger  
Member of Congress

TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYSTEM  
CADR:wc  
Enclosure  
2005 JUL 20 P 5:55

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

ES05-006300

[REDACTED]  
Randalstown, MD [REDACTED]

JUN 13 2005

June 9, 2005

Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger  
Maryland 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District  
375 West Padonia Road  
Timonium, MD 21093

Dear Rep. Ruppersberger:

I am writing to express my concerns regarding an issue with Volkswagen of America, Inc. I currently drive a 2002 Volkswagen Passat and I have had several problems with the front right daytime running lamp constantly failing. Over the last three years that I have had the car, the front daytime running lamp has failed three times. Each time, I have taken the vehicle to the Volkswagen dealership (Russell Volkswagen, Catonsville, Maryland is the dealership to which I take my car) and expressed concerns to them regarding the daytime running lamp. Russell Volkswagen's response is always "the lights frequently bum out because they run daytime running lamps and are always on". Meanwhile, the driver-side daytime running lamp has NEVER failed.

I conducted research on the Volkswagen Passat using the National Transportation Safety Board's website for consumer complaints and there have been many car owners which have complained about the daytime running lamps on their cars. Issues which other car owners have reported have included melted wires, short circuiting in wires and other issues related to the wiring in the light's housing.

This is a considerable concern which I am bringing to your attention. Volkswagen so far has refused to do a recall on the vehicle to fix the problems with the vehicles. I am calling this to your attention in the hopes that you and your colleagues will exert the requisite pressure on Volkswagen to fix the problems willingly.

I have already filed a complaint regarding this issue with the National Transportation Safety Board's Office of Defect investigations' hotline (1-888-DASH-2-DOT). It is my sincere hope that you and your colleagues will research this issue thoroughly and persuade Volkswagen to fix the problem.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you regarding this situation.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

cc Volkswagen of America, Inc. Customer Care Center  
Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD)  
Senator Paul Sarbanes (D-MD)



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

Office of the Secretary

JUL 1 2 2005

The Honorable Dutch Ruppertsberger  
U.S. House of Representatives  
375 W. Padonia Road  
Timonium, MD 21093

Re: FTC Ref. No. 6349816

Dear Representative Ruppertsberger:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of your constituent, Daffeyo Tubman of Randallstown, concerning the safety of his Volkswagen Passat. For your information, the Federal Trade Commission has been directed by Congress to act in the interest of all consumers to prevent deceptive or unfair practices and unfair methods of competition, pursuant to the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. 41 *et seq.* In determining whether to take enforcement or other action in any particular situation, the Commission may consider a number of factors, including the type of violation alleged; the nature and amount of consumer injury at issue and the number of consumers affected; and the likelihood of preventing future unlawful conduct and securing redress or other relief. I would like to emphasize that letters from consumers like you provide valuable information that is frequently used to develop or support Commission enforcement initiatives.

I appreciate learning of your concerns; however, I should note that the jurisdiction of the Commission under the FTC Act does not extend to the situation described. Therefore, I have taken the liberty of forwarding your letter to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for review. Again, thank you for your interest in this matter, and please let me know whenever we can be of service.

Sincerely,

  
Donald S. Clark  
Secretary of the Commission

cc:

Director, Office of Congressional Affairs  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590