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Bronster Crabtree & Hoshibata
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

August 2, 2005

Via U.S. Certified Mail,
Return Receipt Requested

Kathleen DeMeter
Director, Office of Defects Investigation
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Agency
400 7th Street, NW, Room 5326
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: 2005 Dodge Ram SRT-10; VIN 3D3HA18H75G [REDACTED]

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

I am writing to you to address two serious problems before they possibly cause unnecessary deaths or injuries.

Our office represents Mr. [REDACTED] who bought the above-referenced truck from a local dealer on June 30, 2005. Within four days and 30 miles after delivery to Mr. [REDACTED] this truck self-destructed while being driven on the freeway under normal conditions. Apparently, the left rear wheel broke away from the axle, causing the truck to tumble end over end, then roll over, side over side several times. Throughout this time, the air bags failed to inflate. Fortunately, the driver and passenger were wearing seat belts. The truck was a total loss. Miraculously, both the driver and passenger survived without serious injury.

Mr. [REDACTED] intends to discover the cause(s) of this failure in the hope that this knowledge will prevent death or injury to others. He has preserved the truck as evidence. We are requesting that both your office and Daimler-Chrysler each conduct an investigation.

M. Hoshibata
8/15/05

Kathleen DeMeter
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We have heard of but not yet verified at least one other similar failure of a 2005 Dodge SRT-10 in Hawai'i. In addition, there are several consumer complaints found on the NHTSA website relating to failures of the suspension and axle/wheel components of Dodge Rams.

Mr. [REDACTED] is willing to make his truck available for inspection by forensic experts. We encourage you to initiate an investigation so that any potentially defective manufacturing processes may be eliminated.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter of public safety.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeff Crabtree", written in dark ink.

Jeff Crabtree

cc: [REDACTED]