

2005 SEP -7 AM 3:44

[REDACTED]
Bronx, NY
[REDACTED]

10136708

August 25, 2005

US Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic & Safety Administration
Office of Defect Investigation
NSA-110.01, 400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing this letter because I have contacted both The Ford Motor Company and the Law Firm of Lelff, Cabraser, Heimann, & Bernstein LLP and I have not heard any response from either party. I am looking to find a resolution to my claim in regards to the possibility that my Ford Expedition also suffered from the same defect in the cruise-control switch which caused my vehicle to ignite into flames. I have been informed and directed to contact your office for assistance with this claim.

On July 6, 2005 my vehicle, a 1998 Ford Expedition **VIN# 1FMEU18WEWLA** [REDACTED] ignited into flames while the engine was parked with the engine cut off outside of my place of work. Due to the significant similarities of this incident along with information provided by the NHTSA involving similar incidents, I can only conclude that this incident was caused by a malfunction in the car itself and not by any negligence or malice on my part.

Enclosed please find pictures of my damaged vehicle along with the Fire Department of New York's Incident Report on this specific case. I am hoping that this letter along with the evidence that I am providing will help me in recouping my monetary loss, which covers \$11,000.00 (eleven thousand dollars) for the sticker price of the car and other related expenses. I have been forced to have my car stored in a salvage yard until there is some resolution to this situation. Therefore my expenses and losses to date have been \$175.00 weekly for car allowance plus my towing cost.

I previously submitted this claim to my insurance company but under my policy I am only covered for liability and therefore recuperation for any monetary loss for this incident will not fall under my insurance policy. If any further verification of my insurance policy is needed,

E. Kim
9/14/05

enclosed you will find a copy of my New York State Insurance Identification Card.

I sincerely hope that your office can be of great assistance in my claim to recoup my monetary losses. I feel that if no assistance can be given, I will have no other choice but to seek legal representation and recourse to remedy this situation. I am hopeful that the latter will only happen as a last resort. I feel that I am being fair in my claim and I am only trying to recoup the cost of the damaged vehicle and the expenses I have incurred due to this incident.

I thank you for your attention to this matter and look forward to hearing from your office as I am eager to resolve this matter.

Sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area. Above the box, there are faint, handwritten scribbles in black ink, likely remnants of a signature or initials.

[REDACTED]
Bronx, NY [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

August 25, 2005

Ford Motor Company Customer Relationship Center
P.O. Box 8248
Dearborn, Michigan 48126

To Whom It May Concern:

I have previously submitted correspondence to your office in regards to the damage my 1998 Ford Expedition sustained on July 8, 2005 due to a malfunction in my car, which ignited and destroyed it completely. To this date I have not heard back from your office and I am looking to find some resolution to this matter.

Information released by the NHTSA has led me to believe, that my vehicle had a similiar defect in the cruise-control switch which caused my vehicle to ignite and has made it absolutely unusable. Since I have not heard from your office, I had no other choice but to seek help from the NHTSA directly.

I am eager to find a resolution to this situation amicably without any legal action being taken on my behalf. Enclosed you will find a copy of the letter that I sent to the NHTSA along with the evidence that I submitted. I look forward to hearing from your office soon and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Fire Department of New York

Incident Report

Report Date: Aug 23 2005 10:42AM

RESPONSE

Incident Number 2-0377
Incident Date 07/06/2005
Incident Type 131 - Passenger vehicle fire
Alarm Date/Time 07/06/2005 18:09:34
Cleared Date/Time 07/06/2005 18:30:47
Report Closed Date/Time Jul 6 2005 8:20PM
BFI Case # N/A
Box # 2176
Administrative Company
Community Board
Initial Alarm Level
Highest Alarm Level
Precinct
Reported By
Left In Charge

Address
Borough
State
Property Use



PROPERTY & IGNITION:

Referred for Investigation No
Juvenile Involvement No
Cause of Ignition 3 - Accidental - Equipment or heat source failure
Area of Origin 83 - Engine area, running gear, wheel area
Heat Source 10 - Heat from powered equipment, other
Condition on Arrival 3 - Flame and smoke showing
Factors Contributing to Ignition 30 - Electrical failure, malfunction, other

EQUIPMENT INVOLVED IN IGNITION:

Equipment Involved No Equipment Involved in Ignition

MOBILE PROPERTY INVOLVED IN IGNITION:

MOBILE PROPERTY INVOLVED IN IGNITION:

Mobile Property Involved

No Mobile Property Involved in Ignition

BUILDING

DESCRIPTION & DAMAGE:

DETECTORS:

Detector Present

No

AUTOMATIC EXTINGUISHMENT SYSTEM:

System Present

No

STANDPIPE

Standpipe Present

No

UNIT INFORMATION

UNIT RESPONSIBLE FOR REPORT:

Member Making Report

908727 DANIEL P CONWAY

Unit

E071

UNIT NARRATIVE

Incident Narrative

Incident number 2-0377-07/06/2005

On Wednesday, July 6, 2005 at 18:09:34 hours the following units were dispatched to a report of a passenger vehicle fire. The incident location is 400 WALNUT AVE Bronx NY.

Units operated as follows:

L029 arrived at 1814 hours and cleared at 18:28:45 hours

Main use - Suppression

Actions taken - Salvage & overhaul

E071 arrived at 1816 hours and cleared at 18:30:47 hours

Main use - Suppression

Actions taken - Extinguish

Owner, Baldvino not on scene. Lic plate# BCP 3111, Ford Expedition

Reporting Member 908727 DANIEL P CONWAY

Unit Responsible E071.

NEW YORK STATE INSURANCE IDENTIFICATION CARD

688 TRI-STATE CONSUMER INSURANCE COMPANY

Name & Address of Issuer: **TRI-STATE CONSUMER INC.**
575 Jericho Turnpike
Jericho, NY 11783

An authorized NEW YORK insurer has issued an Owner's Policy of Liability Insurance complying with Article 6 (Motor Vehicle Financial Security Act) of the NEW YORK Vehicle and Traffic Law to:

Effective Date: **02/19/2008**

Expiration Date: **02/19/2009**

12:01 a.m. 12:01 a.m.

(Not responsible to obtain registration after 45 days from effective date.)

Applicable with respect to the following Motor Vehicle:

1996 FORD

Year Make

1FMEU1B180

Vehicle Identification Number

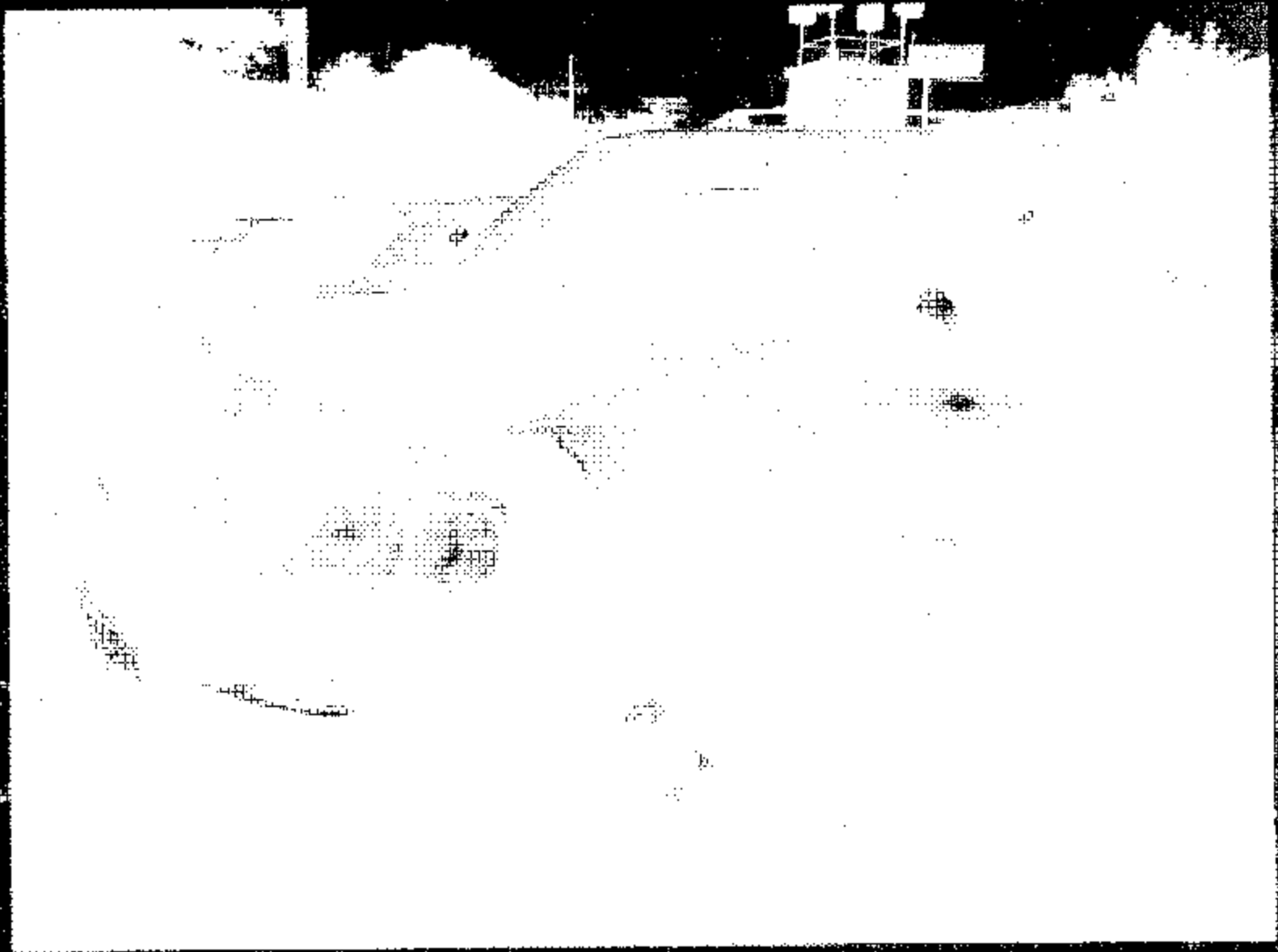
THIS ID CARD MUST BE CARRIED IN THE INSURED VEHICLE FOR PRODUCTION UPON DEMAND

WARNING: Any person who issues or produces an ID card knowing that an Owner's Policy of Insurance is not in effect may be committing a misdemeanor. In addition, a person who presents an ID card if insurance is not in effect may be committing a misdemeanor.

The name of the registrant and the name of the insured must coincide.

REPLACEMENT VEHICLE NOTATION:
DMV WILL ONLY PROCESS A VEHICLE CHANGE (RE-REGISTRATION) USING THE REPLACED VEHICLE'S CURRENT REGISTRATION.







BEER DISTRIBUTORS
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BRONX, NY 10454

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