



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

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects
1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148

Date Received

2014 FEB 13 PM 2:48
25-JAN-2006

Repository ☐

Reference No.
10148577

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
City CATHEDRAL CITY State CA Zip Code [REDACTED]

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Evening Telephone Number

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? ☒ YES ☐ NO
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.
Signature of Owner _____ Date 1/1

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side
JTHBN30F [REDACTED] Make LEXUS Model LS430 Model Year 2001

Date Purchased
01-MAR-01

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number
DESERT LEXUS 760-321-5750

Engine:
No. Cylinders

Fuel Type:
Gas

Original Owner
☒

Dealer's City
CATHEDRAL CITY

State
CA

Zip Code
92234

Transmission Type
AUTOMATIC

☒ Antilock Brakes
☒ Cruise Control

Powertrain
UNKNOWN

Vehicle Component Code
180000 VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL

Multiple Failure: 1

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s)
20-JAN-2006

Failure Mileage
26,800

Failure Speed
25-3

Possible Computer Malfunction - vehicle
not inspected to date (2-1-06)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make

Tire Model (Name or Number)

Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)

DOT No. (Example: DOTM1S9ABC036)

☐ Original Equipment
☐ Prior Repair

Failure Location:

Tire Component Code

Tire Failure Type

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make:

Date Manufactured:

Model No./Name:

Seat Type:

Installation System:

Child Seat Component Code:

Failed Part:

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash

☒ Yes ☐ No

Fire

☐ Yes ☒ No

Number of Persons Injured

1

Number of Deaths

Reported to Police

N

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).

Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e., parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

DOT: THE CONTACT STATED WHILE BACKING OUT OF A PARKING SPACE, THE VEHICLE SUDDENLY LURCHED BACKWARDS WHILE BRAKE PRESSURE WAS APPLIED. THE ENGINE ROARED LOUDLY. THE VEHICLE WAS PLACED IN PARK AND LURCHED FORWARD 5 FEET STRIKING A CONCRETE PILLAR.

ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A CRASH, THE POLICE WERE NOT CONTACTED. THE PASSENGER SUSTAINED MINOR INJURY AFTER STRIKING THE DASH.

THE VEHICLE WAS TAKEN TO A DEALER TO AWAIT INSPECTION BY A MANUFACTURER'S REPRESENTATIVE.

DRIVER

DRIVER, Joseph had his seat belt engaged at impact.

As of 2-1-06 vehicle not inspected by manufacturer or dealer personnel.

Please see enclosed as reported.

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoices.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY.

The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-598) This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

SOLICITED DEFECT INVESTIGATION BY LEXUS CORPORATION
OF CALIFORNIA

DEFECTIVE INVESTIGATION: A dangerous safety flaw in our 2001 LEXUS LS430, VIN # JTHBN30F4 [REDACTED] At 5:05 P.M. on Wednesday, January forth 2006, I parked our Lexus in the SAV-ON Pharmacy parking area at 36-935 Date Palm Drive, Cathedral City, CA. I remained in the vehicle with my safety belt engaged while my wife pursued a quick pharmacy stop. The vehicle was placed in PARK, the ignition key turned off. Upon my wife's return and as she attempted to engage her seat belt, I started our vehicle for possible exit. With my right foot depressing the brake peddle, I engaged the shift selector into the reverse position. Alarminglly, the engine, without hesitation, exploded with a ROARING burst of inconceivable RPM's that catapulted us in a severe backward motion. Violently pressuring the brake peddle, in seconds, I attempted to achieve a PARK posture, when we were uncontrollably bolted forward, forcefully impacting a cylindrical concrete supporting base of a parking lot lamp post structure. The engine continued relentlessly ROARING, POST IMPACT. We were now static, in PARK, embracing the lamp post concrete support when I turned off the ignition. Subsequently, I inspected the front end damage, I witnessed no leaking of water or other fluids and then verified effective headlight functions. Due to time limitations, at 5:30 P.M., I assumed the charter of attempting to deliver an unsafe, too dangerous to drive vehicle, to our local Lexus facility. Reluctantly, I reentered our wayword monster for possible starting.

DEFECTIVE INVESTIGATION:

I restarted the vehicle with great apprehension and controlled fear. I engaged the shift selector into reverse as I submerged the extension of our ignition key in the palm of a perspiring, shaky left hand; in anticipating possible engine termination by myself, if circumstances demanded engine shutdown. To my amazement, we were able to, with complete caution and instilled fear, achieve our trip to Lexus without further incident. We were granted a loaner vehicle, enabling us to transport my wife to ER service at the Eisenhower Medical Center due to our concern for a previous neck surgery she underwent years earlier. We informed Corporate Lexus at 800-255-3987 of our malfunction on 1-06-06 and were informed, [REDACTED] Miceli would be our assigned investigative representative for their office. We are now into the month of February, awaiting inspection by Lexus. Further Corporate Lexus is unable to provide an inspection date of our vehicle remaining at the Cochella Valley Collision Center. It was moved from Desert Lexus, to the collision center on 1-05-06 by Desert Lexus personnel.



Cathedral City, CA

cc: Caroline Miceli, Corporate Lexus
Ren Rooney, General Manager, Desert Lexus