

January 13, 2006

2006 FEB 9

ATTN: QUALITY COMPLIANCE S-207
TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, USA, INC.
PO BOX 2731
TORRANCE CA 90509-9986

10150856

Re: 1989-1995 MY Toyota 4Runner, Toyota Truck, and
1993-1998 MY Toyota T100 Steering Relay Rod
Part 573, Defect Information

Dear Toyota,

I purchased my 1991 Toyota 4Runner on January 5, 2005.

Because of a steering problem I had an accident on November 28, 2005. My Toyota 4Runner was totaled in this accident, another car was hit and I received a ticket for failure to control.

I had my first court date to fight this ticket on December 8, 2005 and received a continuance for today January 13, 2006.

I just received this recall call letter concerning the Steering Relay Rod on January 4, 2006. In reviewing the information of the Safety Recall Notice it states as follows:

What is the problem?

If the steering wheel is repeatedly turned under certain conditions where high steering effort and power assist are required, for instance, when fully turning the wheel while the vehicle is stopped, a fatigue crack may develop in the Steering Relay Rod.

In the worst case, the Steering Relay Rod may fracture, cause a loss of vehicle steering control and thus increasing the possibility of a crash.

In my accident an SUV was coming into my lane. I hit my brakes and fought with the steering wheel while my car rocked back and forth like it was going to tip over. While trying to steer I swerved over and hit the guard rail, spun around, and came back into traffic facing the wrong way. It was then a car hit me and spun me back around. (Other driver information enclosed). My 4Runner was totaled but it could have been a lot worse. I could have been injured or killed.

NAR
208
2/10/06

I believe when the SUV came into my lane and I hit my brakes this caused the "stopped" reaction cited in the Recall. The high steering came when I had to fight with the steering wheel and eventually hit the guardrail. Thus causing my loss of control of the steering and I had the worst case "the cause a loss of vehicle steering control and had a crash."

I have an excellent driving record. I hold a commercial driving license in the State of Ohio. I can maintain control of a Semi or a 4Runner. I knew when the accident happened that something was wrong with the steering, I told my wife at the time of the accident that my truck (steering) didn't come back like it should. Under normal circumstances I would be able to control the steering of my truck and when I received the Safety Recall letter this confirmed my thoughts.

My 1991 Toyota was totaled in this accident. I did not have collision insurance so my car was not replaced by insurance company. (To verify this information you may call Ameriprise Insurance 1-800-872-5246 Ext.5479 [REDACTED] Claim [REDACTED]) This means I am out of a truck that I had just purchased 10 months before for \$1,800 (see copy of check enclosed)

I feel this accident was caused by the Steering Relay Rod malfunction. The National Highway Safety Administration was advised of this problem in September 2005, I did not receive notification of this problem until January 2006. It is possible if I had received notification of this problem before my accident in November this accident could have been prevented and I would still have my truck.

I am asking Toyota for the following reimbursement:

[REDACTED] cost of truck (I only had it for 10 months)
[REDACTED] ticket for court cost for Failure to Control (case was dismissed)
[REDACTED] shocks
[REDACTED] new tires & rims
[REDACTED] new muffler system
[REDACTED] starter
[REDACTED] battery

Total As you can see in the short amount of time I had this 4Runner, I have invested a lot of time and money to get it in top shape. I am only asking for the amount not covered by insurance to replace my vehicle.

Again, this accident could have been far worst. Instead of me writing this letter to you, it could have been my wife writing to you on my behalf if I had been hurt or killed in this accident in November.

Looking forward to your reply,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Columbus, OH [REDACTED]

C:

Toyota
Toyota Motor North America, Inc.
Washington Office
601 Thirteenth Street, NW, Suite 910 South
Washington, DC 20005

Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc.
Toyota Customer Experience, WC 10
19001 South Western Avenue
Torrance, CA 90509

Mr. Ronald Medford
Senior Associate Administrator, Vehicle Safety - NVS-010
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Exchange of Identification Information

This form is provided for you to furnish identification to the other driver(s) involved in the accident. You are required by law to complete this form.

[REDACTED]			
PHONE			
[REDACTED]			
CITY, OH.			
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
[REDACTED]	NORTH GOODALE	[REDACTED]	OH.
DATE OF ACCIDENT	TIME	MAKE OF CAR	MODEL
11/20/05	8:01 PM	FORD TARRAS	BFG 7134 OH.
OWNER'S NAME		OWNER'S INSURANCE COMPANY (if agent)	
AUIS RENTAL-COLUMBUS		CHUBB / US - RTS SYSTEMS	

Either party involved in a motor vehicle accident may file an Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles Crash report, form BMV 3303, with the BMV within six months if (1) there was personal injury or there was property damage in excess of \$400.00 and (2) the driver or owner of the other vehicle did not have insurance or other financial responsibility coverage at the time of the accident. Accident Reports may be accessed at www.columbuspolice.org.

U-20.104 (1/2001)

Division of Police

Columbus, Ohio

Name of
the person
I hit -
trying to Control
steering of my
1991 Toyota

6739516316

6737566316

Truck was
totaled.
Not Covered
by Insurance.

Ameriprise

Claims
Office

My truck was not
Covered for Collison
had liability only.

TOYOTA
TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC.
SSC/LSC NOTIFICATION PROCESSING CENTER
NO GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
P.O. BOX 710387, SAN DIEGO, CA 92171-0387

PRIORITY
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 1150
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

SSC 50N - STEERING RELAY ROD REPLACEMENT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

JT3VN39WC

1991

4RUNNER

000132725
SEC# 50N



COLUMBUS OH



letter from
Toyota I received
in Jan 2006 -
After my accident
in NOV. 2005

VEHICLE
IDENTIFICATION
NUMBER

JT3YN39WDM

SEC# 5DN

COLUMBUS OH 43201

Mark One: 1 ☐ Same Owner, Name and Address Changed 2 ☐ Same Owner, Additional Driver 3 ☐ New Owner 4 ☐ No Longer Have Vehicle—Sold to Individual Listed Below
5 ☐ Exported 6 ☐ Destroyed/Stolen

Effective Date of This Information

Please note if you are the same owner without an address change to report, there is no need to return this card.

SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

Dear Toyota Customer:

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Toyota has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 1993 through 1995 model year 4Runner vehicle.

What is the problem?

On the involved vehicles, if the steering wheel is repeatedly turned under certain conditions where high steering effort is required, for instance, when fully turning the wheel while the vehicle is stopped, a fatigue crack may develop in the Steering Relay Rod. In the worst case, the Steering Relay Rod may fracture, causing a loss of vehicle steering control and thus increasing the possibility of a crash.

What will Toyota do?

Any Toyota dealer will replace the Steering Relay Rod with an improved one at NO CHARGE to you.

What should you do?

Please contact your authorized Toyota dealer to make an appointment to replace the Steering Relay Rod with an improved one, as soon as possible. The repair will take approximately four hours. However, depending upon the dealer's work schedule, it may be necessary to make your vehicle available for a longer period of time.

We request that you present this notice to the dealer at the time of your service appointment.

If you no longer own the vehicle, please indicate so on the enclosed postage-paid form, providing us with the name and address of the new owner.

What if you have other questions?

Your local Toyota dealer will be more than happy to answer any of your questions and set up an appointment to perform the Steering Relay Rod replacement. If you require further assistance, you may contact the Toyota Customer Experience Center at 1-888-270-9371 Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday 7:00 am to 3:00 pm Pacific Standard Time.

What if you have previously paid for the replacement of the Steering Relay Rod for this specific condition?

If you have previously paid for the replacement of the Steering Relay Rod prior to receiving this letter, please mail a copy of your repair order, proof-of-payment, and proof-of-ownership to the following address for reimbursement consideration.

Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.
Toyota Customer Experience, WC 10
18001 South Western Avenue, Torrance, CA 90509

Include your name, address, and telephone number(s) in your request. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks to review your request.

If you believe that the dealer or Toyota has failed or is unable to remedy the defect within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590, or call the toll free Auto Safety Hot Line at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

If you are a vehicle lessor, Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

We have sent this notice in the interest of your continued satisfaction with our products, and we sincerely regret any inconvenience this condition may have caused you.

Thank you for driving a Toyota.

Sincerely,

TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC.

Spanish translation on reverse side
Traducción en español en el reverso



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

ATTN: QUALITY COMPLIANCE S-207
TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC.
PO BOX 2731
TORRANCE CA 90509-9986



**Certain 1989 Through 1995 Model Year Truck 4WD Steering Relay Rod
SAFETY RECALL NOTICE**

Dear Toyota Customer:

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Toyota has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 1989 through 1995 model year Truck 4WD vehicles equipped with Power Steering.

*** What is the problem?**

On the involved vehicles, if the steering wheel is repeatedly turned under certain conditions where high steering effort and power assist are required, for instance, when fully turning the wheel while the vehicle is stopped, a fatigue crack may develop in the Steering Relay Rod. In the worst case, the Steering Relay Rod may fracture, causing a loss of vehicle steering control and thus increasing the possibility of a crash.

What will Toyota do?

Any Toyota dealer will replace the Steering Relay Rod with an improved one at **NO CHARGE** to you.

What should you do?

Please contact your authorized Toyota dealer to make an appointment to replace the Steering Relay Rod with an improved one, as soon as possible. The repair will take approximately four hours. However, depending upon the dealer's work schedule, it may be necessary to make your vehicle available for a longer period of time.

We request that you present this notice to the dealer at the time of your service appointment.

If you no longer own the vehicle, please indicate so on the enclosed postage-paid form, providing us with the name and address of the new owner.

What if you have other questions?

Your local Toyota dealer will be more than happy to answer any of your questions and set up an appointment to perform the Steering Relay Rod replacement. If you require further assistance, you may contact the Toyota Customer Experience Center at 1-888-270-9371 Monday through Friday, 5:00 am to 9:30 pm, Saturday and Sunday 7:00 am through 3:00 pm Pacific Standard Time.

What if you have previously paid for the replacement of the Steering Relay Rod for this specific condition?

If you have previously paid for the replacement of the Steering Relay Rod prior to receiving this letter, please mail a copy of your repair order, proof-of-payment, and proof-of-ownership to the following address for reimbursement consideration.

Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.
Toyota Customer Experience, WC 10
19001 South Western Avenue
Torrance, CA 90509

Include your name, address, and telephone number(s) in your request. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks to review your request.

If you believe that the dealer or Toyota has failed or is unable to remedy the defect within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590, or call the toll free Auto Safety Hot Line at 1-888-327-4238.

 If you are a vehicle lessor, Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

We have sent this notice in the interest of your continued satisfaction with our products, and we sincerely regret any inconvenience this condition may have caused you.

Thank you for driving a Toyota.

Sincerely,

TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC.

Steve Brand / TMS Customer Services Division
September 8, 2005
Approved By: David Zellers

To: All Toyota Dealers
From: Toyota Customer Services

RECEIVED
NYS-215

2005 SEP 13 P 4 09

OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

**50N - STEERING RELAY ROD REPLACEMENT
CERTAIN 1989 - 1995 TRUCK 4WD, 1990 - 1995 4RUNNER 2WD AND 4WD, AND
1993 - 1998 T100 4WD VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH POWER STEERING**

*****URGENT*****

On September 6, 2005, Toyota filed a Defect Information Report (DIR) with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) regarding certain 1989 - 1995 TRUCK 4WD, 1990 - 1995 4RUNNER 2WD/4WD, AND 1993 - 1998 T100 4WD vehicles equipped with power steering, with the intent to initiate an SSC.

On certain vehicles equipped with Power Steering, which include the 1989 - 1995 Model Year Truck 4WD, 1990 - 1995 Model Year 4Runner 2WD and 4WD, and 1993 - 1998 Model Year T100 4WD vehicles, if the steering wheel is repeatedly turned under certain conditions where high steering effort and power assist are required, for instance, when fully turning the wheel while the vehicle is stopped, a fatigue crack may develop in the Steering Relay Rod. In the worst case, the Steering Relay Rod may fracture, causing a loss of vehicle steering control and thus increasing the possibility of a crash.

This new SSC will involve the replacement of the steering relay rod. A dealer package including technical instructions and reimbursement procedures will be mailed to dealers in early September 2005. Owner notifications will follow shortly thereafter.

- All customer inquiries should be directed to the Toyota Customer Experience Center at 1-800-331-4331.
- If you are a dealership associate and have any questions, please contact your District Service/Parts Manager.
- For News media inquiries only, they should be directed to Julie Alfonso at (310) 468-4625, Sam Butto at (310) 468-7728 or Allison Takehashi at (310) 468-5315 in Toyota Corporate Communications. (Please do not provide these numbers to customers or call if you are a dealer associate.)

The following Q&A has been provided for your reference.



S&C 50N - STEERING RELAY ROD REPLACEMENT Q&A
CERTAIN 1989 - 1995 TRUCK 4WD, 1990 - 1995 4RUNNER 2WD/4WD, AND 1993 - 1998 T100 4WD VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH POWER STEERING

Q1: What is the condition?

A1: On certain vehicles equipped with Power Steering, which include the 1989 - 1995 Model Year Truck 4WD, 1990 - 1995 Model Year 4Runner 2WD and 4WD, and 1993 - 1998 Model Year T100 4WD vehicles, if the steering wheel is repeatedly turned under certain conditions where high steering effort and power assist are required, for instance, when fully turning the wheel while the vehicle is stopped, a fatigue crack may develop in the Steering Relay Rod. In the worst case, the Steering Relay Rod may fracture, causing a loss of vehicle steering control and thus increasing the possibility of a crash.

Q2: What is the cause of this condition?

A2: Due to insufficient strength, if the steering wheel is repeatedly turned under certain conditions where high steering effort and power assist are required, for instance, when fully turning the wheel while the vehicle is stopped, a fatigue crack may develop in the Steering Relay Rod.

Q3: Are there any warnings that this condition exists?

A3: No, there are no specific warnings that this condition exists.

Q4: Which and how many vehicles are involved?

A4: There are approximately 978,000 vehicles involved in the U.S.*:

Model Year	Model	Vehicles Sold*
1989 - 1995	Truck 4WD	635,000
1990 - 1995	4Runner 2WD and 4WD	375,000
1993 - 1998	T100 4WD	68,000
Total		978,000

*Includes all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, Saipan and American Samoa

Q5: What is the production period of the affected vehicles?

A5: The affected Toyota vehicles were produced:

Model Year	Model	Production Period
1989 - 1995	Truck 4WD	April 25, 1988 - February 10, 1995
1990 - 1995	4Runner 2WD and 4WD	December 13, 1988 - October 8, 1995
1993 - 1998	T100 4WD	March 13, 1992 - July 30, 1998

Q6: Are there any other Toyota or Lexus vehicles involved?

A6: No, this specific condition only affects certain 1989 - 1995 Truck 4WD, 1990 - 1995 4Runner 2WD and 4WD, and 1993 - 1998 T100 4WD vehicles equipped with Power Steering.

Q7: How many incidents of this condition have been reported?

A7: There have been 7 cases of this condition confirmed by Toyota in the affected T100 vehicles in the U.S. market.
There have been no cases of this condition confirmed by Toyota in the affected 4Runner and Truck vehicles in the U.S. market.

TOYOTA
TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC.

WASHINGTON OFFICE

601 THIRTEENTH STREET, NW, SUITE 910 SOUTH, WASHINGTON, DC 20005

September 6, 2005

TEL: (202) 775-1700

FAX: (202) 468-8513

Mr. Ronald Medford
Senior Associate Administrator, Vehicle Safety - NVS-010
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: 1989 - 1995 MY Toyota 4Runner, Toyota Truck, and
1993 - 1998 MY Toyota T100 Steering Relay Rod
Part 573, Defect Information Report

RECEIVED
NVS-010
1001 SEP - 6 A 9 59
DEFECT INVESTIGATION

05V-389
(5 pages)

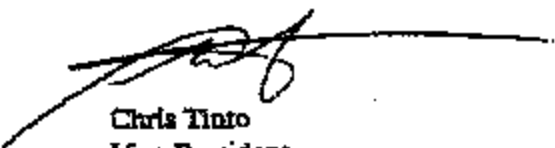
Dear Mr. Medford:

In accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 and 49 CFR Part 573, on behalf of Toyota Motor Corporation ["TMC"], we hereby submit the attached Defect Information Report concerning a voluntary safety recall of certain 1989 - 1995 MY Toyota 4Runner and Toyota Truck vehicles as well as 1993 - 1998 MY Toyota T100 vehicles to address an issue with the steering relay rod.

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact Mr. Sid Yokoi or Mr. Chris Santucci at (202) 775-1707.

Sincerely,

TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC.



Chris Tinto
Vice President

CT:cs
Attachment

STATE OF OHIO - BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES

REGISTRATION CARD

APPLICATION NO.

CM-44799

VEH. CLASS PASSENGER		REG. DATE 4/13/05		DATE OFFLINE N		OWN	
EXPIRATION DATE 02/04/06		MISDEB. AGENCY NO. 2185		EXPIRATION DATE 04/13/06		LICENSE NO. DLK711	
FEE \$1.00		REG. FEE 0.00		OWNER NAME [REDACTED]		VEH. YR 91	
COUNTY FRANKLIN		ADDITIONAL NAME [REDACTED]		VEH. SERIAL NO. JT3VN39W0		APPLICATION NO.	
OWNER'S HOME ADDRESS [REDACTED]		CODE (4) S		CERTIFICATE TITLE NO. [REDACTED]		SEATING CAP	
POST OFFICE COLUMBUS		STATE OH		RESTRICTION CODE AND DUTY 1. DAY 2. NIGHT 3. RV		TOTAL STATE FEE \$1.00	
EQUIPMENT STANDARD Y/N		BRAKES Y/N		MISDEB. AGENCY NO. [REDACTED]		OLD APP. NO. CM-1133	
DEPUTY NAME DARLENE MIDDLEBROOKS		DEPUTY TOWN COLUMBUS		READING 41650			

THE ATTACHMENTS TO THIS
DOCUMENT HAVE BEEN REMOVED
TO PROTECT UNWARRANTED
INVASION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY
PURSUANT TO EXEMPTION 6 OF
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).