



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

AUG 30 2006

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

[REDACTED]
Cleveland, OH [REDACTED]

NVS-216 pe
Ref. No. 10153394

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence dated March 22, 2006, concerning your model year (MY) 1998 Ford Taurus vehicle. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) received your correspondence on August 3, 2006. We regret any inconvenience our delay in responding may have caused you.

NHTSA is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain serious safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. We also monitor the adequacy of manufacturers' recall campaigns. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, we look carefully at the body of consumer complaints and other available data to determine whether a defect may exist. We cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

Information submitted by vehicle owners using Vehicle Owner's Questionnaires (VOQs) are automatically entered into our complaint database, and data is then available to NHTSA's ODI investigators for review and analysis to determine whether an investigation is warranted. Due to the volume of VOQs received and limited agency resources, NHTSA cannot respond to the submitters of these questionnaires. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused you.

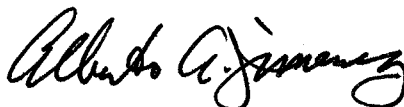
Your vehicle identification number has been added to your file (Ref. No. 10153394). With regards to the Ford Taurus front coil spring recall (NHTSA Campaign Number 04V-322000, summary enclosed), that recall involved 899,060 MY 1999 through 2001 Ford Taurus and Mercury Sable vehicles. It did not include the 1998 Ford Taurus. A review of our database relative to failures of the front coil spring on 1998 Ford Taurus vehicles reveals insufficient evidence to warrant opening a safety defect investigation at this time. The information you provided has been entered into our database. It will be considered with other reports to identify any safety defect trends that may require our attention.



DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE
888-DASH-2-DOT
888-327-4236

You can contact our toll-free NHTSA Vehicle Safety Hotline (Hotline) at 1-888-DASH-2-DOT (1-888-327-4236). One of our representatives may be able to assist you on matters concerning motor vehicle and motor vehicle equipment safety recalls or to report an alleged safety problem. You can also request safety information. If our telephones are busy, or you call during non-working hours, you can leave your name, telephone number, and a brief subject on our recording system. A Hotline representative will return your call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alberto A. Jimenez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'A'.

Alberto A. Jimenez, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

Enclosure