

NHTSA ccmMercury Routing Slip



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NHTSA #: ES06-001862

XREF #:

Delivery: HND

Rec'd Date: 3/27/2006

Doc Type: CNG

Address To: NHTSA

Referred By: NPP-011

Doc Date: 3/22/2006

Due Date: 4/5/2006

S10 #:

DOT/I #:

RMP #:

Subject: FAX LTR FM [REDACTED] (OH) OWNER OF 1997 MERCURY MARQUIS
EXPERIENCE MECHANICAL PROBLEMS BALL JOINT FAILURE AND

Ack Date:

Sign Office: DIRECTOR FOR
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Cleared Date:

File Loc:

Added By: AANDREWS x82543

Ack By:

Signature: HARRINGTON

Cleared By:

XREF File:

Modified By: LOGLESBY

Signed For:

Cleared For:

Closed Date:

Most Recent Comment:

Author:

JEAN SCHMIDT
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Tel: Fax: E-mail:

10154114

2006 MAR 28 PM 12:46

Assigned To	Task	Asgn Date	Deadline	Returned Date
NVS-200	REPLY	3/27/2006	4/5/2006	
	Return Process	3/28/2006		3/28/2006
ODI	REPLY	3/28/2006	3/31/2006	
NIA-110	INFORMATION	3/27/2006		3/27/2006
NVS-010	INFORMATION	3/27/2006		3/27/2006
I10	INFORMATION	3/27/2006		3/27/2006
I20	INFORMATION	3/27/2006		3/27/2006

Mein
3/28/06

JEAN SCHMIDTMember of Congress
Cincinnati, OhioTRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
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jeanschmidt@mail.house.gov**FAX COVER SHEET**District Office
8044 Montgomery Road, Suite 540
Cincinnati, OH 45226

Phone: 513.791.0381

Fax: 513.791.1696

E-Mail: linda.long@mail.house.gov

DATE: March 22, 2006

TO: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 202.366.2106

From: Linda Long, Caseworker

Re: Constituent [REDACTED]

Number of pages including this cover: 41

Thank you

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

MAR 27 12 00 PM '06

JEAN SCHMIDTMember of Congress
Second District, OhioTRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
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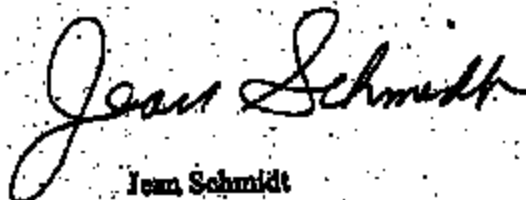
March 17, 2006

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jean.schmidt@house.govCongressional Liaison
National Highway Traffic Safety Administrator
Washington, DC

Dear Congressional Liaison,

Enclosed is correspondence I received from my constituents [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]In their letter, [REDACTED] express concerns for the highway safety of
their vehicle.Your assistance in responding to [REDACTED] questions, in
accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, is greatly appreciated.Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter. Please direct
a final response and any intercurrent questions my caseworker, Linda Long, at
513.791.0381.

Sincerely,

Jean Schmidt
Member of Congress

JS/11

Cincinnati, Ohio

MAR 16 2006

March 14, 2006

Congresswoman Jean Schmidt 2nd district Ohio

* % Nan Kohner Cahall, District Director

local Office 8044 Montgomery Rd., Room 540, Cincinnati, Ohio 45236

Subject: Unsatisfactory response by Federal Highway Safety Bureau

Dear Congresswoman Schmidt

We have been trying to get help from Ford & their Dealers & The above Bureau on our 1997 Mercury / Marquis. We bought unit from Eastside Lincoln Mercury. This used car with 17,000 miles & extended warranty up to 60,000 miles. We were never advised of the following problems....

A hard plastic manifold, that after a time springs a leak shoots antifreeze all over car, making it unusable. We paid Beechmont Ford over \$1,100 to fix that problem. We heard there was a law suit and they were forced to replace on extended warranty on product! We got no help, since Ford settled out of court and only Police, Fire & Fleet cars covered and cars built within six years were reimbursed, they knew any cars purchased after deadline would cost them. Govt. Agreed. When I called federal Highway safety Mr. Jaramenez was helpful as well as his asst., [he left shortly after helping me] but the others were unsympathetic, saying what do you expect with car over 97,000 miles.

Our dealer, lost Lincoln Mercury dealership and we had to find other locations to service car. We then heard squeak, when tire turned, the gas / oil dealer said check it out if noise gets louder [again no warning by Ford or dealer of Potential ball joint a wearing out, since no lubrication ports] as we were Driving home the ball joint broke causing axle to hit ground * Tire to Blow. Fortunately car was only going 29 miles an hour, if I was going 60 miles an hour on the interstate and this happened we would both be dead! Again Ford With Safety Bureau agreement, Fixed Police cars, fire dept. cars & Fleet cars, but no help for General public! It probably takes ten deaths & Law suit before we get help or financial reimbursement. This cost \$1,400. When I asked for another review MR Jaramenez asked higher authority, who wouldn't answer me, finally Mr. Jaramenez advised case closed, no help. See ODI Resumé - Only Accidents & Deaths Reported! We hope Congresswoman Jean Schmidt can get Federal Highway safety Bureau, to reopen ball joint case, get help before someone dies.

P.S. on 6/20/06 this model car when hit from Rear at 50-65 mph - Bolts cut

Gas Tank Cause Explosion: Driver Has 3rd Degree Burns Another Person Slightly Injured - NOTHING for Victim!

We met you at Medicine meeting Union Township.



ODI RESUME

INVESTIGATION:

FE98-145

DATE OPENED: 13-AUG-98

SUBJECT:

Ball Joint Failure

DATE CLOSED: 18-DEC-98

PROMPTED BY:

IE98-040

PRINCIPAL ENGINEER:

Terri Doreburg

MANUFACTURER:

Ford

MODEL(S)/MODEL YEAR(S):

1996-1999 Crown Victoria Police and Fleet Vehicles
 1996-1999 Lincoln Town Car Limousines
 Certain 1990-1996 Police and Limousine vehicles identified
 in Ford's warranty system as having been serviced with a
 specific ball joint.

VEHICLE POPULATION:

Approximately 175,000

PROBLEM DESCRIPTION:

The front suspension may collapse due to failure of the lower
 control arm ball joint and cause a loss of vehicle control.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	MANUFACTURER	TOTAL
COMPLAINTS:	10	35	45
CRASHES:	0	0	0
INCIDENTS:	0	0	0
# INJURIES:	0	0	0
FAT CRASHES:	0	0	0
# FATALS:	0	17	23
OTHER*	0		

*Includes police vehicles receiving ball joint replacements for other reasons. These vehicles either had ball joints replaced due to front end noise, front end looseness, steering not returning to "zero" position, or they were noticed on inspection.

ACTION: Close this Preliminary Evaluation. Recall number 980322

ENGINEER:

Terri Doreburg
 12/12/98

DATE

OFC DIR:

Richard P. Boyd
 12/12/98

DATE

OFC DIR:

[Signature]
 12-18-98

DATE

9
 12-18-98