



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

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

JUN 9 - 2006

[REDACTED]
Duluth, MN [REDACTED]

NVS-216 mrc
Ref No. 10156250

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence dated February 12, 2006, and two Vehicle Owner's Questionnaires (VOQ) (Reference Nos. 559124 and 10156250), concerning your model year (MY) 1989 Ford Tempo vehicle. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation received your correspondence on April 20, 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.

We appreciate the report you provided. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. Each report is analyzed and entered into a database to determine whether an investigation into a possible safety defect is warranted.

Private lawsuits, including class action lawsuits, may be brought against manufacturers for a variety of reasons, including claims that have no relation to motor vehicle safety. However, NHTSA does not have information or jurisdiction over class action lawsuits and we are not familiar with terms of this class action. If you have not done so, you may consider contacting the Minnesota Office of the Attorney General with respect to this issue. Additionally, NHTSA does



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888-DASH-2-DOT
888-327-4236

not participate in such proceedings and we are not familiar with the details of any resolution. Moreover, we do not have any authority to enforce the terms of any settlement arising out of class action suits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alberto A. Jimenez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alberto" and last name "Jimenez" clearly distinguishable.

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