



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

23-AUG-2006

Repository

Reference No. 10166357

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name, Address, City (MARLBOROUGH), State (CT), Zip Code

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 a signature your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.
Signature of Owner Date 8/29/06

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side: 5TDBT44A31S
Make: TOYOTA Model: SEQUOIA Model Year: 2001

Date Purchased: 10-FEB-01 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number: LYNCH TOYOTA Engine: No: Cylinders 8 Fuel Type: Gas

Original Owner: [X] Dealer's City: MANCHESTER State: CT Zip Code: 06042

Transmission Type: AUTOMATIC Antilock Brakes: [X] Cruise Control: [X] Powertrain: 4 WHEEL DRIVE Vehicle Component Code: 024000 SUSPENSION:AUTOMATIC STABILITY CONTROL (ASC) Multiple Failure: 3

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s): 23-AUG-2006 Failure Mileage: 115001 Failure Speed: 70

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: DOTM9ABC036), 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 [X] No Fire: [] Yes [X] No Number of Persons Injured, 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).

DF*: THE CONTACT STATED WITHOUT INCIDENT THE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT ILLUMINATED. THE DEALERSHIP DETERMINED THERE WAS NOTHING WRONG WITH THE VEHICLE AND IT WOULD BE FINE TO DRIVE TO SOUTH CAROLINA FROM CONNECTICUT. THREE HOURS INTO THE DRIVE THE WARNING LIGHT ILLUMINATED FOR THE VEHICLE STABILITY CONTROL. THE CONTACT CONTINUED TO DRIVE THE VEHICLE. 11 HOURS LATER, THE VEHICLE STABILITY CONTROL ACTIVATED AT 30 MPH ON A SMOOTH ROAD. THE VEHICLE WAS PULLED OVER AND WHEN TURNED OFF, THE VSC DEACTIVATED. THE VEHICLE WAS TAKEN TO THE LOCAL DEALERSHIP, WHERE IT WAS DETERMINED THE YAW RATE SENSOR NEEDED TO BE REPLACED. THE REPAIR WAS NOT DONE AND THE DEALERSHIP STATED THE VEHICLE COULD BE DRIVEN BACK TO CONNECTICUT. WHILE DRIVING THE WARNING LIGHT ILLUMINATED AGAIN AND THE CONTACT CONTINUED TO DRIVE THE VEHICLE. THE VEHICLE STABILITY CONTROL ACTIVATED AND THE VEHICLE WAS PULLED OVER, AND THEN TURNED OFF. THE VSC DEACTIVATED AND THE VEHICLE WAS DRIVEN HOME. THE VEHICLE HAS NOT BEEN TO THE DEALERSHIP.

replace with attachment.

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

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 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 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.

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

GOT 2001 TOYOTA SEQUOIA 02/2001 MANY PROBLEMS. ONE IS VSC SYSTEM WARN LIGHTS ON, TOTAL ACTIVATION OF VSC SYSTEM FOR NO REASON. 8/04 BROUGHT TO DEALER, VSC WARNING LIGHTS ON AND SOMETIMES POWER CUT, VERY DANGEROUS! DEALER FOUND "YAW RATE SENSOR MAY POSSIBLY BE MALFUNCTIONING, BUT EVERYTHING WORKING ACCORDING TO MANUFACTURER SPECIFICATIONS NO PROBLEM AT THIS TIME. VSC SYSTEM WORKING AS DESIGNED. OK TO RETURN TO SERVICE." 7/06 CHECK ENGINE LIGHT ON. BROUGHT TO DEALER 8/3/06, TOLD NOTHING WRONG, PROBABLY LOOSE GAS CAP. WE HAD HEARD THAT EXCUSE BEFORE. 8/18/06 ON A TRIP FROM CT TO SC, VSC OFF/ VSC TRAC OFF WARNING LIGHTS CAME ON AND BEEPED. ARRIVED AT OUR DESTINATION, PARKED CAR FOR 1 HOUR. DROVE ABOUT 1 MI VSC SYSTEM FULLY ACTIVATED BROUGHT US TO COMPLETE STOP IN TRAFFIC, ALMOST REAR ENDED! TOOK TO LOCAL DEALER (8/21). \$191 LATER WAS TOLD IT WAS A SENSOR MALFUNCTION NOT A SAFETY ISSUE WHAT SO EVER. SERVICE REP SAID "ABSOLUTELY NOT A PROBLEM TO DRIVE TO CT PERFECTLY SAFE". 3 HOURS LATER VSC OFF /VSC TRACK OFF WARNING LIGHTS CAME ON. ON OUR LAST STOP WARNING LIGHTS WENT OFF AS USUAL BUT DID NOT COME BACK ON RIGHT AWAY. INSTEAD VSC SYSTEM WENT INTO TOTAL ACTIVATION ON I81 AT 70 MPH! LUCKILY WE WERE IN RIGHT LANE. MADE IT TO NARROW SHOULDER. GOT VEHICLE UNDER CONTROL, THE SHOULDER HAD RUN OUT AND WE WERE ABOUT 1 FT FROM HITTING THE GUARDRAIL. WE COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED AND COULD HAVE CAUSED A 40 CAR PILE UP WITH MANY DEATHS! BROUGHT VEHICLE TO OUR LOCAL DEALER. PROBLEM SO DANGEROUS THAT I DON'T WANT TO GET IN THIS CAR AGAIN! I WILL NEVER FEEL SAFE OR TRUST TOYOTA SERVICE AGAIN. TOYOTA NEEDS TO EDUCATE DEALER SERVICE DEPTS AND RECALL THIS VEHICLE BEFORE SOMEONE DIES. THIS IS ONLY ONE OF MANY PROBLEMS WE HAVE HAD WITH THIS CAR AND TOYOTA SERVICE. WE COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED OR HURT TWICE (NOT JUST THIS INCIDENT) BECAUSE OF MALFUNCTIONS AND TOYOTA SERVICE MISTAKES. WE BOUGHT THIS VEHICLE BECAUSE OF TOYOTA'S REPUTATION FOR SAFE, QUALITY-BUILT VEHICLES. WE GOT NEITHER!

U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

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

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300



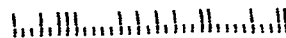
NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO 73173 WASHINGTON, D.C.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY NATL. HWY. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation, NVS-210
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590



**Think your vehicle
has a safety defect?**



If so:

**Use the enclosed
form to file a report.**

or write

Vehicle Safety Hotline

or call

888-327-4236

Vehicle Safety Hotline



Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire (VOQ)
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Additional Information:

Condition recurred on the way to dealer, that is why I left the car there. Dealer has diagnosed problem as a Steering Angle sensor and a Yaw Rate Sensor. Cost to repair: \$1,070

Saw exact problem reported to NHTSA on another 2001 Toyota Sequoia on Nov. 12, 2003. Malfunction of Steering Angle Sensor caused loss of control at 70 mph on Interstate. NHTSA ODI # is 10049104 for that incident.

Contacted Toyota Rep. His position and Toyota's is that when vehicle is out of warranty Toyota has no responsibility.