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Beloit, Ohio

Email:

August 31, 2006

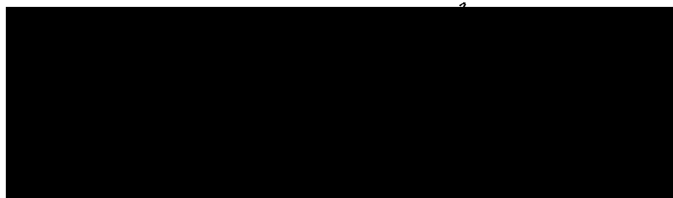
Memo to:

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

RE: Volvo airbag defect and injury and refusal of responsibility by the Volvo Corporation

Attached is a letter from State of Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro, in response to my letter of August 3 which is also attached.

Please review these and let me know if there is anything that your organization might be able to do to help. I am very frustrated that I have to live with a permanent impairment caused through no fault of my own and that the vehicle manufacturer has no culpability.



*Mania
9/7/06*



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
JIM PETRO, ATTORNEY GENERAL

Consumer Protection Section
30 E. Broad St.
14th Fl., Dept 066
Columbus, OH 43215-3400
Telephone: (800) 282-0515
(614) 466-4986
Facsimile: (614) 728-7583
www.ag.state.oh.us

August 10, 2006

[REDACTED]
Beloit, OH [REDACTED]

Re: Volvo of North America
Complaint # [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I have carefully reviewed the complaint you recently filed with Attorney General Jim Petro's Consumer Protection Section. I regret to inform you that, in my opinion, the problems you have encountered do not fall within the jurisdiction of our office since activities of this type are not covered by the Consumer Sales Practices Act or other consumer statutes the Attorney General is charged with enforcing. I have also been unable to find another government agency that has jurisdiction over this matter.

You may possibly try contacting the:

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation
NVS-210, 400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590
1-888-327-4236

You may wish to continue consulting with your private legal counsel to determine the civil remedies that may be available to you.

I regret we cannot be of further assistance to you in this matter. Please feel free to contact Attorney General Petro should you have a consumer problem in the future.

Very truly yours,

JIM PETRO
Attorney General

Johnathan L. Ward
Consumer Protection Specialist
Consumer Protection Section
(614) 995-1577
JWard@ag.state.oh.us
(800) 282-0515 Toll Free (Ohio Only)
(614) 728-7583 (Fax)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Beloit, Ohio [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

August 3, 2006

Mr. Jim Petro,
Ohio Attorney General
State Office Tower
30 E. Broad Street, 17th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-3428

Dear Sir:

I am writing in the hopes that you might be able to somehow limit or restrict the Ohio presence of Volvo cars and the Volvo Corporation. I am writing as a person who was injured and permanently impaired by a serious malfunction of the airbag in my Volvo. Volvo Corporation has denied any culpability or compensation for this injury. They have claimed statute of repose, that they have no liability for product malfunction after 10 years, and that my Volvo was 12 years and 5 months old. That certainly seems contradictory to Volvo Corporation's claims of safety and the longevity of their vehicles.

I would not have brought any action against Volvo if I had been injured by the airbag during an accident where it saved my life or reduced injury. This was not the case. On Monday, March 21, 2005 at the end of my work day, in the parking lot, the airbag deployed when I turned on the ignition. The resulting explosion knocked me momentarily unconscious. The airbag had hit me at an angle, slamming into the right side of my face and my left breast. People heard the explosion from inside the office building. I had a bloodied nose and eye, chemical burns and immediate swelling of my eye, face and breast. Photos are enclosed. After emergency treatment at the scene, I was taken to the (Ravenna) Robinson Memorial hospital emergency room and spent until approximately 1:00 a.m. the next morning undergoing emergency treatment and examination. The immediate concern was whether I had retina detachment or broken bones around my eye socket and cheekbones. The force of the airbag impact was so great that it drove the seams of my brassiere into my flesh and caused abrasions as well as massive bruising.

I was unable to open my right eye until Friday, March 25, and unable to return to work. I also required a driver for the many specialist appointments that were necessary that week and the next, and for the first few days that I returned to work.

I continued treatment for my eye immediately with NorthEast Ohio Eye Surgeons [REDACTED], then was immediately referred to Ohio Retina Center (Akron). I have also been extensively examined by eye specialist, [REDACTED] in Cleveland.

Treatment regarding the injury to my breast was through the Ulrich Professional Group, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] The bruising and swelling was so bad that I wasn't able to have a final mammogram to determine the extent of damage until after September 2005. Final damage was determined to be minimal, but is to be monitored closely over the next few years.

When I was finally able to open my right eye for the loss of sight to be assessed, it was approximately 60% loss. By the end of 2005 (9 months) I had healed to a loss of about 20%, and there has been no further improvement. I did not have retina detachment, but there is permanent, irreparable retina damage and nerve, photosensor and tear duct damage. I have 2 complete blind spots in the right side of my right eye, and loss of a certain amount of my peripheral vision. I was told there there is nothing that can be done nor any lenses or external fix to repair this damage or to improve the lost sight. I have been told by both NEOSurgeons and [REDACTED] that my present condition is as good as it is going to get, and both my sight and my eye will probably deteriorate more as I age. I was told that the damage to the fluid ducts of my eye will most certainly cause glaucoma problems in the future, and I am now being closely monitored for this.

My 1988 Volvo 740 was left unuseable. I was afraid to drive it or to have it repaired and it was taken to The Volvo Shop in Ravenna. Because of the pending lawsuit, I was told that the car had to be kept. I later had to turn down an offer to sell the car for parts for \$500. After the first few days, the shop said that storage charges of \$10 per day would be assessed. These charges exceeded \$3,000 by February 2006 when Volvo Corporation finally acted to completely deny my claim and I was finally informed that the car could be released for disposal. I therefore signed the title of the car over to The Volvo Shop. I also had kept the car insured as "in storage" for this entire time. So, besides my permanent eye injury, loss of work time and wages, and medical expenses, I also lost my car.

This used 1988 station wagon was the second Volvo I had owned; having replaced my first one with it in 2001. I had heard repeatedly about the longevity of Volvos and how 300,000 to 350,000 miles was expected and even over 400,000 miles was not at all unusual for a Volvo. My 1988 had somewhere around 265,000 miles on it at the time of the airbag explosion, making it, by Volvo's own statements, barely middle-aged. I had no plans for a new car and, in fact, in the prior year had purchased new tires, a new battery and had \$600 of maintenance work done to this car with a plan of keeping it for at least another 3 years. There was no indication of any problem in the systems and the car had not been in an accident. There was no evidence of any disturbance to the car while it had been parked at my office during the day.

My attorney, Gregory Hale of Holland & Muirden in Akron said that when first contacted, the Volvo Corporation (attorney) stated that Volvo would not be claiming statute of repose. The day before the preliminary hearing was scheduled in Portage County court (February 15, 2006), Volvo filed a denial of my claim and the case was dismissed by the court. My attorney is continuing to pursue action through consumer advocacy groups.

I again ask that you please give consideration to what the State of Ohio might do to help in this case.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

c: Bill Ford/Volvo Corporation
McDonald's (re: Volvo car as a prize in a current contest)