



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

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

May 25, 2007



NVS-216et  
Ref # 10177643

Dear [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your email concerning your model year (MY) 2001 Dodge Ram vehicle. Your correspondence was received by the Office of Defects Investigation on May 23, 2007.

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 cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

On May 3, 2000, NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) opened a safety defect investigation (RQ00-012) to investigate the effectiveness of a prior recall, which involved the replacement of the secondary hood latch guide bracket. In response to RQ00-012, DaimlerChrysler initiated an investigation to determine if there was an independent issue which was causing the condition. The investigation revealed 345 complaints for MY 1994-1997 vehicles, which claimed the hood secondary latch did not function properly. Further investigation revealed that defect was due to corrosion of the return spring, which may cause the hood secondary latch to become inoperative, possibly allowing the hood to open unexpectedly if the primary latch mechanism is not engaged. As a result, on February 7, 2001, DaimlerChrysler notified NHTSA that it would conduct a safety recall (NHTSA Campaign No. 01V-040) to remedy a defect of the secondary hood latch in certain MY 1994-1997 Dodge Ram vehicles.

Regarding the repair of your vehicle malfunction, which is similar to the problems exhibited under NHTSA Campaign No. 01V-040, summary enclosed, we strongly recommend that you continue to work with your local dealership or you may contact DaimlerChrysler directly at:

DaimlerChrysler  
Customer Center  
PO Box 21-8004  
Auburn Hills, MI 48321-8004  
800-992-1997

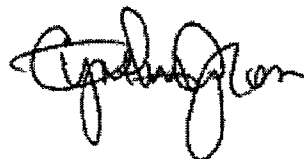


VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE  
888-327-4236

Additionally, for your information we have included the following link which explains the investigation process <http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/recalls/recallprocess.cfm>.

As you may know, should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment in the future, you can complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq>. Also, a summary listing of vehicle owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc., can be obtained at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cynthia Glass', written in a cursive style.

Cynthia Glass, Acting Chief  
Correspondence Research Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement