

PARRISH, FL

CL-10181585-2032

2007 JAN 25 NOV 9 2006

DEAR NHTSA OFFICIAL,

PLEASE INVESTIGATE THE PROBLEM WITH TOYOTA TUNDRA SHIFT ASSEMBLY FAILURES. IS THIS A SERIOUS SAFETY ISSUE?

BROWSING THE INTERNET, I'VE READ ABOUT MANY TUNDRA OWNERS ENCOUNTERING THE SAME PROBLEM. FOR EVERY CASE YOU READ ABOUT, THERE'S PROBABLY 10 MORE YOU DON'T. MY TUNDRA IS A 2000 MODEL, HOWEVER MANY CASES INVOLVE 2001, 2003, AND 2004 MODELS.

SOME ARE UNDER WARRANTY. OUT-OF-WARRANTY REPAIRS COST \$400-\$800.

I WAS LUCKY. ABOUT TO LEAVE THE MALL PARKING LOT ON 24 NOV 2006, MY SHIFT LEVER BROKE (SHATTERED) WITH NO WARNING. I WAS ABLE TO "STIR" THE LIMP LEVER INTO "DRIVE" AND DROVE DIRECTLY TO THE TOYOTA DEALER IN BRADENTON, FL.

EXAMINING THE FAILED COMPONENTS, I THOUGHT IT WAS A DESIGN FLAW, OR SUBSTANDARD MATERIALS. THIS ASSEMBLY SHOULD NEVER FAIL.

MANY WHO EXPERIENCE THIS PROBLEM ARE IMMEDIATELY SITTING IN A DISABLED VEHICLE, UNABLE TO PUT THE TRUCK IN GEAR. LOCKED IN "PARK", THE TRUCK CAN'T EVEN BE PUSHED (OUT OF HARM'S WAY).

LB 11/25/07
CL

MY BIG CONCERN: SAFETY OF THE DRIVER AND
OTHER MOTORISTS.

WHAT IF:

I'M SITTING ON ONE OF SEVERAL 2-LANE
DRAWBRIDGES IN MY AREA, AND THE SHIFTER
BREAKS. TRAFFIC WILL BE BACKED UP FOR HOURS
WHILE A WRECKER WORKS ITS WAY TO THE DISABLED
TRUCK.

I'M SITTING IN TRAFFIC ON I-75 NEAR TAMPA.
AN ACCIDENT (ALL TOO NUMEROUS HERE) HAS
TRAFFIC STOPPED FOR HOURS. THE BACKED-UP TRAFFIC
CAN AND DOES EXTEND FOR 5, EVEN 10 MILES.
FINALLY, TRAFFIC STARTS TO MOVE AND MY TRUCK
BREAKS. A VERY REAL AND DANGEROUS SITUATION,
IT SURE SEEMS.

KEEP THE PARTS AND IF YOU DETERMINE THIS
WARRANTS A RECALL, REQUIRE TOYOTA TO
REPLACE THE COMPONENTS WITH A BETTER DESIGN
OR USE STRONGER METAL. THE REPAIR COST IS
SUBSTANTIAL, BUT THE MAIN CONCERN IS SAFETY!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]