

NV 7443

CL-10182674-9223

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Las Vegas, NV [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

National Highway Traffic Safety Administrator
400 Seventh Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

January 29, 2007

Re: Mercedes Safety Recall #2006-080005

I am writing in regards to the above safety recall. Enclosed you will find a copy of the receipt from my mechanic who repaired the taillight on my 1999 Mercedes SLK 230 in August of 2006. My mechanic told me of the safety recall on the taillight assembly. I called the Mercedes dealership to have them do the repairs. The Mercedes dealership in Las Vegas was quite adamant that there was no safety recall and that they would not repair my vehicle free of charge. I ended up having my mechanic do the repairs.

I filed a complaint with your department immediately in August of 2006. I received a letter back stating that the report had been received. I recently received a recall letter from Mercedes Benz. I have enclosed a copy of both for your records.

I would like to be reimbursed for the [REDACTED] that I paid out of my pocket for on the safety recall that Mercedes refused to pay. If you should need any more information from me or my mechanic regarding this matter you may contact me at the above address and telephone number.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

DD
2/7/07
CC



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

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

Dear Consumer:

NVS-216 aaj

As a result of your recent report to the Vehicle Safety Hotline (VSH), we have recorded that report on the enclosed Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire (VOQ) form. Please review the form and make changes, additions and corrections as necessary. Additionally, please provide a more detailed description of the failure(s) you reported that you believe is(are) relevant to safety. Also, if available, include copies of repair invoices, letters to the manufacturer, or any other document related to the problem(s) you reported. If a crash or fire occurred, include a copy of the police or fire department report.

It is helpful to be as thorough as possible in your report so that our ability to use your report will be maximized. If you do not have the information, it is not necessary to complete all the boxes. However, it is very difficult to identify the scope of a vehicle problem unless the vehicle identification number (VIN) is known. The VIN is located inside the vehicle on the dashboard adjacent to the left (driver's side) of the windshield pillar and on the driver's door or the driver's door jam. It may also be listed on the dealer's repair invoices. When reporting a tire problem, the brand name, tire name and complete tire size should be included. If possible also provide the DOT tire identification number. It is usually located near the rim flange of the tire on either side of the tire.

The Privacy Act prohibits our agency from identifying you to the manufacturer without your permission. If you wish to give us that permission, please mark the appropriate authorization box and sign the form to allow us to provide your name to the manufacturer. The information you provide may assist the manufacturer and NHTSA in determining if a safety-related defect exists.

Any information provided is entirely voluntary. There is no consequence or penalty of any kind if you do not wish to provide it. We seek this information to develop both statistical and investigative evidence that will help identify potential safety related problems in vehicle or vehicle equipment, e.g., tires, child safety seats, jacks, etc.

When completed, please fold and staple or tape the form so that the pre-address portion of the form is on the outside. If a larger envelope is used, tape the VOQ form to the larger envelope so that the pre-address portion of the form is showing.

If further assistance is needed, please contact the VSH at their toll-free number, 1-888-327-4236.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure: VOQ



DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE
888-DASH-2-DOT



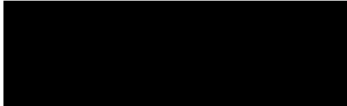
Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Klaus Uhlen
Vice President, Customer Services

Safety Recall #2006-080005

January, 2007



Las Vegas, NV [Redacted]



Dear Mercedes-Benz Owner,

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. WE SENT YOU THIS NOTICE BECAUSE WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR SAFETY.

DaimlerChrysler AG (DCAG), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Model Year 1998 - 2004 SLK-Class vehicles with regard to the tail lamp assemblies. Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) therefore has initiated a recall of these vehicles. Our records indicate that your vehicle is included in the affected population of vehicles.

DCAG has determined that due to heat generated by the brake lamps, the base of the lamp sockets can be subject to thermal deformation over time. This deformation can cause movement in the socket-to-bulb connection, which may lead to a loosening of the electrical contacts in the sockets, and a failure of the bulb to illuminate. This condition can cause a failure of either side brake lamp bulbs to illuminate. The center brake lamp is not affected. A failure of the brake lamp bulbs to illuminate could lead to a rear end vehicle crash.

Your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will install redesigned tail lamp assemblies using more heat resistant material and enhanced lamp holder mountings to withstand the heat generated by the brake lamps. This service will be provided free of charge. The working time required to repair this condition is approximately 1 hour. As a matter of normal service process, your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will also check for other repair measures which might be applicable to your vehicle and this may increase the required working time. Please contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer for additional information and to schedule an appointment at your earliest convenience. Please mention Recall Campaign #2006-080005.

If you are no longer the vehicle owner, or have a change of address, please complete the reverse side of this letter and return the complete letter in the enclosed envelope. If this is a leased vehicle and the lessor and registered owner receive this notice, please forward this information by first class mail to the lessee. If you have paid to have this recall condition corrected prior to this notice you may be eligible to receive reimbursement. Please see the reverse side of this notice for details.

Please contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer should you have any questions or encounter any difficulty regarding this recall. If your dealer is unable to remedy your situation please contact us at 1-(800) FOR-MERCEdes (1-800-367-6372).

If an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer or Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC, fails or is unable to perform this service without charge within 60 days, pursuant to law 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590 or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We apologize for any inconvenience this situation may cause you.

Sincerely,

THE ATTACHMENTS TO THIS
DOCUMENT HAVE BEEN REMOVED
TO PROTECT UNWARRANTED
INVASION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY
PURSUANT TO EXEMPTION 6 OF
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).