



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

2007 MAR 19 AM 7:41
01-MAR-2007

Repository ☐

Reference No.
10183899

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name

Address

City

MANASSA

State

VA

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 an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.

Signature of Owner

Date / /

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side

1FMEH1H1

Make

FORD

Model

EXPEDITION

Model Year

1997

Date Purchased
01-SEP-96

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number
MUHLENBUERG MOTOR 540-459-2154

Engine:

No: Cylinders 8

Fuel Type:

Gas

Original Owner

☒

Dealer's City

WOODSTOCK

State

VA

Zip Code

Transmission Type

AUTOMATIC

☒ Antilock Brakes

☒ Cruise Control

Powertrain

4 WHEEL DRIVE

Vehicle Component Code

171100 LATCHES/LOCKS/LINKAGES:DOORS:LATCH

Multiple Failure: 10

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s)

01-APR-1998

Failure Mileage

5000

Failure Speed

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: DOTM19ABC036)

☐ 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 ☒ No

Fire

☐ Yes ☒ No

Number of Persons Injured

0

Number of Deaths

0

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).

TL*- THE CONTACT STATED THAT THE 1997 FORD EXPEDITION XLT HAD A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS WITH THE CHILD SAFETY LOCKS. WHEN HE PUT SOMEONE IN THE BACK SEAT THE SAFETY LOCKS ENGAGED AND THE PASSENGER COULD NOT OPEN THE DOOR. THE CONTACT SPOKE TO THE DEALERSHIP, AND STATED THAT THEY HE SHOULD HAVE THE LOCKS REPLACED AT HIS OWN COST. THE CONTACT FELT THIS WAS SAFETY PROBLEM, IF A CRASH OCCURRED THE BACK PASSENGERS COULD NOT GET OUT OF THE VEHICLE ON HIS OWN. THE CURRENT MILEAGE WAS 10500, AND THE FAILURE MILEAGE WAS 5000. *AK

This situation has been mentioned by many people on internet sites.

The child safety locks on the rear passenger doors slowly move from off to on each time the inside door handle is used to open the door. After three or four uses (operating) of the inside door handle, the child safety lock has now moved to the on (locked) position. The rear door is now unable to be opened from the inside. The rear passengers are now locked in the vehicle.

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 to 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)

I do not think that this problem is a ~~very~~ normal "wear and tear" problem. Since I very rarely carry rear passengers, this problem did not become apparent immediately after taking delivery of the vehicle. But on the few occasions that I did carry rear passengers, I then began to experience this "locked in" situation. My spouse has a 2000 Expedition that also has very ~~minimal~~ ^{minimal} use of the rear passenger doors. The 2000 Expedition has the same child proof lock problem as my 1997 Expedition. This seems to be a design flaw issue, since both vehicles experienced the same problem while still very new. My spouses 2000 Expedition child proof lock problem has ^{also} been reported to you, Reference No. 10183902.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

DOT
NATIONAL HIGHWAY
TRAFFIC SAFETY ADM
400 7TH ST SW
WASHINGTON DC 20590

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO 1888 WASHINGTON DC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION, NVS-210
400 7TH ST SW
WASHINGTON DC 20077-8214



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



If so:

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

or visit:

www.safercar.gov

or call:

Vehicle Safety Hotline

888-327-4236

NHTSA
www.nhtsa.gov

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