



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

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

May 8, 2007

[REDACTED]
Essex Junction, VT [REDACTED]

NVS-216 aae
Ref. # 10189002

Dear [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your correspondence dated March 26, 2007, concerning the bracket weld on the K-frame on your Model Year (MY) 2000 Chevrolet Malibu vehicle. Your correspondence was received by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation on April 18, 2007. We regret any inconvenience our delay in responding may have caused you.

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.

We appreciate the report you provided. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. We have reviewed our database in an effort to identify whether a safety defect trend exists with regard to weld rusting on your K frame that holds the right steering arm in MY 2000 Chevrolet Malibu vehicles. At this time, there is insufficient evidence to warrant opening a safety defect investigation. The information you provided has been entered into our database and will be considered with future reports to identify any safety defect trends that may require our attention. We do not need to inspect the K-frame from your vehicle at this time.

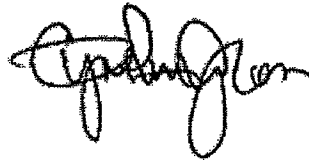
Should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment in the future, you can complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's



VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE
888-327-4236

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', with a stylized, cursive script.

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