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To - The Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave S.E.: Washington, D.C. 20590

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From - [REDACTED] Vero Beach Fl [REDACTED]

I purchased a new 2007 Toyota Camry in Dec 2006. I did not test drive it first, this is my fourth Camry, I was sure it would be great. On the way home I noticed that when I took my foot off of the throttle the car would free wheel for about a second and then I could feel a slow down as if the breaks were applied or the car down shifted. The main problem with this is that in traffic my car does not free wheel as other normal cars do and I notice the cars behind me having to suddenly hit their breaks as they begin to overtake my car because there was no indication of break lights from me. This creates an undo traffic hazard. This slowing down after releasing the gas has to be lowering my gas mileage as well because I do not get the coast distance that I normally would.

Also, upon making a turn after slowing to a few miles per hour and then applying pressure to the throttle the car would hardly accelerate for several seconds and then would suddenly take off. Toyota partially corrected the hesitation in acceleration with recalibration but not completely. Where it gets real scary is when I am in the middle lane of a three lane highway and the traffic in front of me slows down to a crawl and I want to change lanes. Traffic in the adjoining lane is far enough back to allow me to safely enter which I do and hit the gas, almost no perceptible acceleration occurs and I am now in the adjoining lane with oncoming traffic bearing down. The car finally does shift and take off but the hesitation exposes me to an extremely dangerous condition. This also occurs at low speed when I change lanes on an ordinary two lane road in the city. Driving this vehicle makes we feel like an accident waiting to happen.

I emailed these complaints to the President and CEO of Toyota motors in Japan and California. I did get a response from the Presidents secretary who arranged a meeting with a district service rep at Toyota of Vero Beach. He drove my car and didn't seem to feel there was any problem and indicated that the car was learning how I drive. What a joke that is. When I hit the gas, except from a dead stop, I never know what this car is going to do and that is very scary.

MC
11/6/07
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