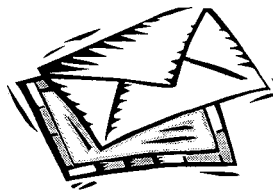


# NHTSA ccmMercury Routing Slip



CL-10242594-7323

Printed: 9/10/2008

NHTSA #: ES08-005826

XREF #:

Delivery: MESSENGER ENV.

Rec'd Date: 9/10/2008

Doc Type: CNG

Address To:

Referred By: NPO-011

Doc Date: 8/7/2008

Due Date: 9/19/2008

S10 #:

DOT/I #: 2008-8239

RMP #:

**Subject: LTR FROM SENATOR BINGAMAN ON BEHALF OF CONSTITUENT, [REDACTED] RE FRONT SIDE AIR BAG DEPLOYMENT IN HER 2001 SATURN (DOT/I#2008-8239) REPLY TO CONSTITUENT W/COPY TO SENATOR BINGAMAN**

Ack Date:

Sign Office: DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR

Cleared Date:

File Loc:

Added By: BMILLINGS x65470

Ack By:

Signature: JAMES F. PORTS, JR.

Cleared By:

XREF File:

Modified By:

BERNADETTE.MILLINGS

Signed For:

Cleared For:

Closed Date:

Most Recent Comment:

## Author:

The Honorable JEFF BINGAMAN CHAIRMAN  
UNITED STATES SENATE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Tel: Fax: E-mail:

| Assigned To | Task        | Asgn Date | Deadline  | Returned Date |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| NVS-200     | REPLY       | 9/10/2008 | 9/19/2008 |               |
| NVS-010     | INFORMATION | 9/10/2008 |           | 9/10/2008     |
| NIA-110     | INFORMATION | 9/10/2008 |           | 9/10/2008     |
| NOA02       | INFORMATION | 9/10/2008 |           | 9/10/2008     |
| I10         | INFORMATION | 9/10/2008 |           | 9/10/2008     |

2008 SEP 10 PM 4:11

2008 SEP 10 PM 4:11  
21:12  
NM

# United States Senate

August 7, 2008

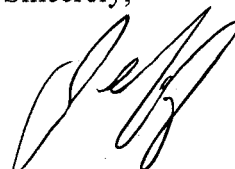
Mr. Simon Gros  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Simon:

I received the enclosed letter from [REDACTED] regarding the situation with her automobile. I would appreciate your assistance in responding to my constituent's concerns. Please respond directly to my constituent and provide Sanjay Kane in my office with a copy of your response.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jeff Bingaman  
United States Senator

JB/sk

2008-8239

## Search Mail for Correspondence ID 6483078 -- 1 Record(s)

| # | ID | Date In   | In Method | E-Mail Subject                                    | Assigned To | Status   | Correspondent  | Salutation | Issues           | Out Method | Letter Name                         | Batch | Modified Date       | Completed Date |
|---|----|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|----------------|------------|------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1 |    | 7/12/2008 | E-Mail    | I need your help in a David and Goliath struggle. | SANJAYK     | Approved | Ms. [REDACTED] | FORMAL     | BUCK-Buck letter | E-Mail     | buck_to_constituent v.1 (4/19/2007) |       | 08/06/2008 12:51 PM |                |

**E-Mail Subj:** I need your help in a David and Goliath struggle.

Subject: I need your help in a David and Goliath struggle.

July 12, 2008

Dear Senator Bingaman,

Following is the information I've already submitted to the NHTSA and the FTC and will be faxing a complaint to the New Mexico Attorney General's Office.

On June 6, 2008, the front passenger side airbag deployed when my son exited my car after firmly closing the door.

I contacted GM and an outside contracted engineer inspected my vehicle. He stated that the car's computer registered "an event" that occurred prior to the airbag deployment. This "event", however, could not be specifically determined, only stating that it happened when my car was traveling at 40 miles per hour. This is patently false. I was stopped with the engine running. He further stated the warning light was on before the bag deployed. This also was absolutely not true. A GM representative said the company will not fix my car. I questioned the safety and reliability of the computer in my car to this representative in their Product Allegation Department. I told her I would be contacting the NHTSA and the Attorney General's Office of New Mexico and other agencies. She encouraged me to do so. My mechanic and the collision repair shop that looked at my car said this never should have happened and also urged me to contact federal and state agencies. These individuals said it was very dangerous for me to be driving with the airbag system being activated and neither I nor my passengers would have protection in case of an accident. I had checked on recalls regarding problems with airbags on my 2001 Saturn but was told by GM my VIN number was not included but it could have slipped through the process. I have an excellent driving record, my car is in pristine condition, has only 69,000 miles on it and is regularly maintained. Something is amiss. It is obvious the car's computer is registering incorrect information and jeopardizing my safety and that of my passengers.

Anything you can do to assist me will be most appreciated.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Albuquerque, NM [REDACTED]

home phone: [REDACTED]

work phone: [REDACTED]

home email: [REDACTED]

work email: [REDACTED]

**Response:** 'else{x.style.display='none'}">buck\_to\_constituent v.1 (4/19/2007) (Edit Library)

09-Sep-08

# 2008 Senate Report - Governmental Affairs Correspondence Control Sheet (I-1) W85-328

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**Control Number:** 2008 — 8239  
**Date DOT Received:** 9/4/2008  
**Date DOT Entered:** 9/4/2008  
**Member's Date:** 8/7/2008  
**Member Last Name:** Bingaman  
**Member First Name:** Jeff  
**Member Organization:** United States Senate  
**Address1:**  
**Address2:**  
**City:** Washington  
**State:** DC  
**Zip:** 20510  
**Constituent File Name:** [REDACTED]  
**Constituent Date:** .  
**Action Office:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
**Subject:** her 2001 Saturn  
  
**Action Office Code:** NHTSA  
**Due Date:** 10/10/2008  
**Member Contact:**  
**Pending:** Yes  
**Member Contact Phone:**  
**Closed Date:**  
**Remarks:**  
**Direct Reply/Comeback Copy** Yes  
**Congressional Affairs Contact** Maria Harrison at (202) 366-4573