



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

October 6, 2009

The Honorable Jim Gerlach
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

NVS-216 nlm
Ref. # 10283228

Dear Congressman Gerlach:

Thank you for your correspondence dated August 31, on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED] wrote concerning the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) investigation (PE 08-065) into seat anchor bracket failures in model year (MY) 2003 through 2007 Nissan Murano vehicles. Your correspondence was received on September 2.

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 safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. However, we cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

We appreciate the report you provided on behalf of [REDACTED]. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. [REDACTED] is requesting that NHTSA further investigate these failures. As with any investigation, all relevant information was examined thoroughly before a decision was reached. Although there were a high number of failures resulting in a rearward tilting of the driver's seat, collapse of the seat or vehicle control issues were not identified. Likewise, no compromise to the vehicle's occupant protection system was identified. Therefore the agency did not identify a safety-related defect and the investigation was closed on July 2, 2009. We will continue to monitor the performance of these seats; however, at this time, we have no plans to reopen the defect investigation.

Should [REDACTED] encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment in the future, she can complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq>. Also, a summary listing of vehicle owners'



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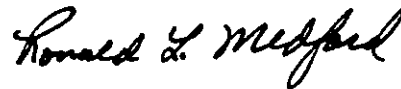
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complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc. can be obtained at
<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems>.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions, please contact me or
Mr. Daniel C. Smith, NHTSA's Associate Administrator for Enforcement, at (202) 366-3217.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ronald L. Medford".

Ronald L. Medford
Acting Deputy Administrator