

700 WATLINS BLVD  
MYRTLE BEACH, SC

August 25, 2009

ESIS/GM Central Claims Unit  
P.O. Box 300  
Mail Code 482 C19 B61  
Detroit, Michigan 48265-3000

Re file number: 677179

Dear Sir or Madam:

Events prior to and immediately following the incident:  
I was driving my Lumina, home, and got within ½ mile to our house, when the car started sputtering. I pulled the car over, and thought I would walk to our house, to let my husband know what was going on. When I turned off the key, I saw smoke coming from hood on both sides and at windshield. I walked to house, and my husband got a chain, in case we had to pull it back to the house. When we got around the block from our house, where I had left the car, I was in shock, seeing that the fire department was putting out a fire from the car. We were told the flames were 6 or 7 foot high and it blew out the windshield and both front side windows. The front tires melted, the radiator and bumper were burned to nothing. The dash was melted, the paint was burned off of the car, to the back doors, the grill was burned up and gone. Everything under the hood was totally burned up.

I could not believe, my lumina caught on fire and burned up, like that. If I hadn't been so close to our house, I would have been sitting in the car, when the fire blew up, like it did. I have always taken our grandbaby in my car, and it could have happened with both of us in it. We are very lucky, it happened the way it did. As you can see in the picture's, there is no way it is repairable.

My lumina, always ran perfect. I never had trouble with it, ever, and had never had to get any work done on it. It was my only transportation to church, stores etc. It always ran perfect, and am shocked this happened.

I got a small loan at my bank, and put my lumina up for collateral. I still owe around \$6900.00 on the loan. I only had liability insurance on the car, and no comprehensive insurance on it. The car is at Circle H towing in Myrtle Beach, and I have informed them, that they must keep the car there, until this is settled.

I have been advised that I need an attorney to handle this matter, but have decided to try to work with you, and see if we can't agree on a settlement.

I never got a letter of a recall on the car, but my husband looked it up on the computer, and found out there has been a recall on chevy Lumina's 1998 to 2003.

The fire investigator, came and looked at the car, right after, the fire was put out, and he said he was going to write it up as a malfunction . He said that the fire was under the hood, and the other damage was from the heat.

I am left without transportation.

I just want you to make right with me,

Respectfully



ank  
Firefigt

<b>A</b>	26501 FDID	SC State	08/07/2009 Incident Date	S01 Station	FR090807026605 Incident Number	00 Exposure	<b>NFIRS -1 Basic</b>
----------	---------------	-------------	-----------------------------	----------------	-----------------------------------	----------------	---------------------------

<b>B Location</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> See Wildland Fire Module for Location		Census Tract
2 Intersection	FOLLY	RD	
	MYRTLE BEACH	SC 29588-	
	SOCASTEE BLVD	State Zip Code	
	Cross Street or Directions		

<b>C Incident Type</b> 131 Passenger vehicle fire <small>Incident Type</small>	<b>E1 Dates &amp; Times</b>	<b>E2 Shifts &amp; Alarms</b> <small>Local Option</small>																					
<b>D Aid Given or Received</b> N None	<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Date</th> <th>Time</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Dispatch</td> <td>08/07/2009</td> <td>15:23:39</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arrival</td> <td>08/07/2009</td> <td>15:29:10</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Controlled</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last Unit Cleared</td> <td>08/07/2009</td> <td>17:37:50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Date	Time	Dispatch	08/07/2009	15:23:39	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arrival	08/07/2009	15:29:10	<input type="checkbox"/> Controlled			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last Unit Cleared	08/07/2009	17:37:50	<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">C</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">HC</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><small>Shift or platoon</small></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><small>Alarms</small></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><small>District</small></td> </tr> </table>	C	4	HC	<small>Shift or platoon</small>	<small>Alarms</small>	<small>District</small>
		Date	Time																				
Dispatch	08/07/2009	15:23:39																					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arrival	08/07/2009	15:29:10																					
<input type="checkbox"/> Controlled																							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last Unit Cleared	08/07/2009	17:37:50																					
C	4	HC																					
<small>Shift or platoon</small>	<small>Alarms</small>	<small>District</small>																					
		<b>E3 Special Studies</b> <small>Local Option</small>																					
		<small>Special Study ID#      Special Study Value</small>																					

<b>F Action Taken</b>	<b>G1 Resources</b>	<b>G2 Estimated Dollar Losses &amp; Values</b>																		
81 Incident command <small>Primary Action Taken (1)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> Check this box and skip this section if an Apparatus or Personnel form is used. <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Apparatus</th> <th>Personnel</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Suppression</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EMS</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Apparatus	Personnel	Suppression	1	2	EMS	0	0	Other	1	2	<b>LOSSES:</b> Required for all fires if known. Optional for non fires. <span style="float: right;">None</span> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>Property</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contents</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Property	\$ 0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contents	\$ 0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Apparatus	Personnel																	
Suppression	1	2																		
EMS	0	0																		
Other	1	2																		
Property	\$ 0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																		
Contents	\$ 0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																		
11 Extinction by fire service personnel	<input type="checkbox"/> Check box if resource counts include aid received resources.	<b>PRE-INCIDENT VALUE:</b>																		
82 Notify other agencies <small>Additional Action Taken (3)</small>		<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>Property</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contents</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Property	\$ 0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contents	\$ 0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>												
Property	\$ 0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																		
Contents	\$ 0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																		

<b>Completed Modules</b>	<b>H1 Casualties</b>	<b>H3 Hazardous Materials Release</b>	<b>I Mixed Use Property</b>				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire-2 <input type="checkbox"/> Structure-3 <input type="checkbox"/> Civilian Fire Cas.-4 <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Serv. Casualty-5 <input type="checkbox"/> EMS-6 <input type="checkbox"/> HazMat-7 <input type="checkbox"/> Wildland Fire-8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apparatus-9 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personnel-10 <input type="checkbox"/> Arson-11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%;"><small>Fire Service</small></td> <td style="width:50%;"><small>Deaths</small></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width:50%;"><small>Civilian</small></td> <td style="width:50%;"><small>Injuries</small></td> </tr> </table>	<small>Fire Service</small>	<small>Deaths</small>	<small>Civilian</small>	<small>Injuries</small>	N None	NN Not mixed use
<small>Fire Service</small>	<small>Deaths</small>						
<small>Civilian</small>	<small>Injuries</small>						
	<b>H2 Detector</b>						

<b>J Property Use</b>	962 Residential street, road or residential driveway
<b>M Authorization</b>	<small>Officer in charge ID</small>



<b>A</b>	26501 FDID	SC State	08/07/2009 Incident Date	S01 Station	FR090807026605 Incident Number	00 Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Delete <input type="checkbox"/> Change	<b>NFIRS - 9 Apparatus or Resources</b>
----------	---------------	-------------	-----------------------------	----------------	-----------------------------------	----------------	--	---

<b>B</b>	Apparatus or Resource <small>Use codes listed below</small>	Dates and Times <small>Check if same date as alarm date</small>	Sent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Number of People	Use <small>Check ONE box for each apparatus to indicate its main use at the incident.</small>	Actions Taken
1	ID E1 Type 11	Dispatch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 08/07/2009 1523 Arrival <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 08/07/2009 1529 Clear <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 08/07/2009 1701	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Suppression</b>	
2	ID INV2 Type 00	Dispatch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 08/07/2009 1622 Arrival <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 08/07/2009 1635 Clear <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 08/07/2009 1737	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b>	

Type of Apparatus or Resource	Aircraft	Medical & Rescue	
Ground Fire Suppression	41 Aircraft: fixed wing tanker	71 Rescue unit	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">                     More apparatus? Use additional sheets.                 </div> NN None UU Undetermined
11 Engine	42 Helitanker	72 Urban search & rescue unit	
12 Truck or aerial	43 Helicopter	73 High angle rescue unit	
13 Quint	40 Aircraft, other	75 BLS unit	
14 Tanker & pumper combination		76 ALS unit	
16 Brush truck		70 Medical and rescue unit, other	
17 ARF (Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting)	Marine Equipment	Other	
10 Ground fire suppression, other	51 Fire boat with pump	91 Mobile command post	
Heavy Ground Equipment	52 Boat, no pump	92 Chief officer car	
21 Dozer or plow	50 Marine apparatus, other	93 HazMat unit	
22 Tractor	Support Equipment	94 Type 1 hand crew	
24 Tanker or tender	61 Breathing apparatus support	95 Type 2 hand crew	
20 Heavy equipment, other	62 Light and air unit	99 Privately owned vehicle	
	60 Support apparatus, other	00 Other apparatus/resource	

<b>A</b>	26501 <small>FDID</small>	SC <small>State</small>	08/07/2009 <small>Incident Date</small>	S01 <small>Station</small>	FR090807026605 <small>Incident Number</small>	00 <small>Exposure</small>	<b>NFIRS - 2 Fire</b>
----------	------------------------------	----------------------------	--	-------------------------------	--	-------------------------------	---------------------------

<p><b>B Property Details</b></p> <p><b>B1</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Residential Estimated number of residential living units in building of origin whether or not all units became involved</p> <p><b>B2</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buildings not involved Number of buildings involved</p> <p><b>B3</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Less than one acre Acres burned (outside fires)</p>	<p><b>C On-Site Materials or Products</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>On-site material (1) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>On-site material (2) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>On-site material (3) <input type="checkbox"/></p>
---	---

<p><b>D Ignition</b></p> <p><b>D1</b> 83 Engine area, running gear, wheel area <small>Area of fire origin</small></p> <p><b>D2</b> UU Undetermined <small>Heat source</small></p> <p><b>D3</b> UU Undetermined <small>Item first ignited</small> 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check box if fire spread was confined to object of origin</p> <p><b>D4</b> UU Undetermined <small>Type of material first ignited</small> Required only if item first ignited code is 00 or &lt;70</p>	<p><b>E1 Cause of Ignition</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Check box if this is an exposure report. 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cause under investigation</p> <p><b>E2 Factors Contributing to Ignition</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Factor contributing to ignition (1)</p> <p>Factor contributing to ignition (2)</p>	<p><b>E3 Human Factors Contributing to Ignition</b></p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Asleep 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly impaired by alcohol or drugs 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Unattended person 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly mentally disabled 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Physically disabled 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple persons involved</p> <p>7 <input type="checkbox"/> Age was a factor</p> <p>Estimated age of person involved</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female</p>
--	---	--

<p><b>F1 Equipment Involved in Ignition</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <small>If equipment was not involved, skip to Section G</small></p> <p>Equipment Involved</p> <p>Brand</p> <p>Model</p> <p>Serial #</p> <p>Year</p>	<p><b>F2 Equipment Power</b> 31 Gasoline <small>Equipment Power Source</small></p> <p><b>F3 Equipment Portability</b> 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Portable</p> <p><small>Portable equipment normally can be moved by one person, is designed to be used in multiple locations, and requires no tools to install.</small></p>	<p><b>G Fire Suppression Factors</b> Enter up to three codes. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Fire suppression factor (1)</p> <p>Fire suppression factor (2)</p> <p>Fire suppression factor (3)</p>
--	--	---

<p><b>H1 Mobile Property Involved</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Involved in Ignition and burned</p>	<p><b>H2 Mobile Property Type &amp; Make</b></p> <p>11 Automobile, passenger car, ambulance, <small>Mobile property type</small></p> <p>CH Chevrolet <small>Mobile property make</small></p>	<p><b>Local Use</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Fire Plan Available</p> <p><small>Some of the information presented in this report may be based upon reports from other agencies:</small></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Arson report attached <input type="checkbox"/> Police report attached <input type="checkbox"/> Coroner report attached <input type="checkbox"/> Other reports attached</p>
<p>Lumna <small>Mobile property model</small></p> <p>1998 <small>Year</small></p> <p>SC 2GWN52K5W9 <small>State VIN Number</small></p> <p>License Plate Number</p>		

Report Date: **October 7, 2009 at 12:35 PM**  
Search Type: **VEHICLE**  
Make: **CHEVROLET**  
Model: **LUMINA**  
Model Year: **1998**

Results : 1 | All records displayed

Make: ~~CHEVROLET~~

Model: ~~LUMINA~~

Model Year: ~~1998~~

Manufacturer: **GENERAL MOTORS CORP.**

Mfr's Report Date: **APR 08, 2009**

NHTSA CAMPAIGN ID Number: **09V116000**

NHTSA Action Number: **EA07008**

Component: **ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING**

Potential Number of Units Affected: **1497516**

**Summary:**

GENERAL MOTORS IS RECALLING 1,497,516 MY 1997-2003 BUICK REGAL, MY 1998-2003 CHEVROLET LUMINA AND IMPALA, MY 1998-1999 OLDSMOBILE INTRIGUE, MY 1997-2003 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH A NATURALLY ASPIRATED ENGINE. SOME OF THESE VEHICLES HAVE A CONDITION IN WHICH DROPS OF OIL ARE DEPOSITED ON THE EXHAUST MANIFOLD THROUGH HARD BRAKING.

**Consequence:**

IF THE MANIFOLD IS HOT ENOUGH AND THE OIL RUNS BELOW THE HEAT SHIELD, IT MAY IGNITE INTO A FIRE THAT MAY SPREAD TO THE PLASTIC SPARK PLUG WIRE CHANNEL AND BEYOND INCREASING THE RISK OF AN ENGINE COMPARTMENT FIRE.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL REMOVE THE SPARK PLUG WIRE RETENTION CHANNEL AT THE FRONT OF ENGINE AND INSTALL NEW SPARK PLUG WIRE RETAINERS FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING MAY 2009. CONTACT CHEVROLET AT 1-800-630-2438, OLDSMOBILE AT 1-800-630-6537, AND PONTIAC AT 1-800-620-7668 OR VISIT [HTTP://WWW.PONTIAC.COM](http://www.pontiac.com) OR [HTTP://WWW.GMOWNERCENTER.COM](http://www.gmownercenter.com).

**Notes:**

GM RECALL NO. 09047. OWNERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

Document Search

Check to Request Research. Submit below.

1998 Chevrolet Lumina - (1,497,516 vehicles affected) - Campaign #09V116000

**SUMMARY:**

ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING

**DESCRIPTION:**

GENERAL MOTORS IS RECALLING 1,497,516 MY 1997-2003 BUICK REGAL, MY 1998-2003 CHEVROLET LUMINA, MONTE CARLO 1997-2003 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH A 3.8L V6 NATURALLY ASPIRATED ENGINE. SOME OF THESE VE OIL MAY BE DEPOSITED ON THE EXHAUST MANIFOLD THROUGH HARD BRAKING.

**CONSEQUENCE:**

IF THE MANIFOLD IS HOT ENOUGH AND THE OIL RUNS BELOW THE HEAT SHIELD, IT MAY IGNITE INTO A SMALL FLAME AND AND BEYOND INCREASING THE RISK OF AN ENGINE COMPARTMENT FIRE.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION:**

DEALERS WILL REMOVE THE SPARK PLUG WIRE RETENTION CHANNEL AT THE FRONT OF ENGINE AND INSTALL TWO NEW S RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING MAY 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT CHEVROLET AT 1-800-630-2438, OLDSMOBILE A HTTP://WWW.PONTIAC.COM OR HTTP:WWW.GMOWNERCENTER.COM.

**NOTES:**

GM RECALL NO. 09047.OWNERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S (800-424-9153), OR GO TO <A HREF=HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV>HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV</A> .



FRONT VIEW UNDER HOOD

1998 Lumina



Fire damage

Harvie and Catherine Hamilton

Side view under hood

1998 Lumina



FIRE DAMAGE

Harlie or Cothorin Hamilton

FRONT VIEW of burned engine

1998 Lumina



Worlie & Cothran Hamilton

1998 Lumina after fire.

Everything under hood burned, melted tires, bumper, grill, etc



Harlie or Casho - in Humoldt

VIN# from buried dash

