



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire TO REPORT VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS

Call: 888-327-4236
Visit: www.safercar.gov
Fax this form: 202-366-7882 or 202-366-3171
Mail this form: see page 2 for instructions

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY	
Date Received	Repository ☐
Reference No. 103/4303	

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)			
Name			
Street			
City	State	Zip Code	
Berthoud	CO		
Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? In the absence of authorization, NHTSA will provide a copy of this report to the vehicle manufacturer only during a defect investigation or when you make a complaint about recall performance on your vehicle.			
Signature of Owner			Date 10/9/09

VEHICLE INFORMATION			
17 digit Vehicle Identification number located at bottom of windshield on driver's side		Make Fleetwax	Model 42F
		American Eagle	Year 07
Date Purchased 5/07	Dealer's Name and Telephone Number K&C RV		Engine: Cummins
☐ Original Owner	Dealer's City Livingston	State CO	Fuel Type: ☒ Diesel ☐ Hybrid
		Zip Code	☐ Gas ☐ Other
Transmission Type ☐ Manual ☒ Automatic	☒ Antilock Brakes ☒ Cruise Control	Powertrain ☐ All-Wheel Drive ☐ Front-Wheel Drive ☒ Rear-Wheel Drive ☐ Four-Wheel Drive	

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION				
Component Name	Incident Date(s)	Failure Mileage	Failure Speed	Failure Location ☐ Driver ☐ Passenger ☐ Front ☐ Rear

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE			
Tire Make/Brand	Tire Model/Line	Tire Name	Tire Size (Example: P215/65R1105)
Failed Structure ☐ Tread ☐ Sidewall ☐ Bead		DOT No. (Example: DOT MAL9ABC036 on sidewall)	
☐ Original Equipment ☐ Prior Repair			
Failure Type: ☐ Blowout ☐ Blister ☐ Crack ☐ Torn ☐ Tread Separation ☐ Road Hazard ☐ Out of Round			

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE			
Make	Date Manufactured	Model Number and Name	
Seat Type ☐ Infant ☐ Booster ☐ Integrated ☐ Convertible ☐ Other		Installed in Vehicle using the: ☐ Vehicle safety belt ☐ LATCH system* *Vehicle info required	
Failed Part. Describe Failure Below ☐ Base ☐ Harness/Buckle ☐ LATCH Connector ☐ Shell ☐ Handle ☐ Other			

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION (Please describe in detail the Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).)				
Crash ☐ Yes ☒ No	Fire ☐ Yes ☒ No	Number of Persons Injured	Number of Deaths	Police Report No.
Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).				

See Attachment

Continue on page 2.

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to a49 U.S.C. Chapter 301. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If NHTSA proceeds with administration enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Attachment No. 1

October 9, 2009

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation, NVS-210
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Unsafe Motorhome

To whom it may concern,

I am asking for your help regarding an unsafe issue with my Model 42F, 2007 American Eagle Motorhome manufactured by Fleetwood Motor Homes of Indiana Inc. The design and certified rating of the front axle is not sufficient to allow for the usual and intended use of this motorhome. I first heard of this at the national rally, last year in Tucson. It was my understanding from the Fleetwood executives that spoke at the rally, the factory was looking into a fix for this serious situation. They assured us that Fleetwood had always stood behind their motor homes and this front axle situation would be no different.

I have weighed my motorhome several times. With full fuel, propane and water, and empty black and gray waste water tanks, the front axle is overloaded by 580 pounds. I believe that with the motorhome loaded as specified in the Fleetwood 2008 Owner's Manual, it is impossible to meet the certified cargo carrying capacity with the present axle.

Fleetwood Motor Homes of Indiana, Inc. was aware of this safety issue with the front axle as early as November of 2007. In fact, on the new motor homes that were built right after mine was built, they changed the design from a 14,600 pound rated axle to a 16,600 rated axle.

I have been given a lot of advice as to what to do about this. The advice has ranged from over inflating the tires and ½ filling the fuel tanks and water tanks to replacing the front axle. I am looking to your department for the definitive answer as to what I need to do to make my motorhome safe while drive on our highways.

Sincerely,

