

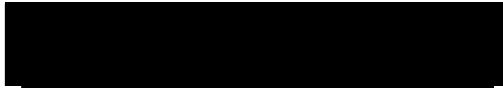
**INFORMATION Redacted PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(B)(6)**



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

September 27, 2010



Los Angeles, CA

NVS-216 et
Ref. No. 10317893

Dear



Thank you for your correspondence dated August 18, 2010, concerning your model year (MY) 2005 Mercedes-Benz SL600 vehicle. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) received your correspondence on August 26, 2010. We apologize for the delayed response.

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. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, we look carefully at the body of consumer complaints and other available data to determine whether a defect may exist.

We appreciate the report you provided. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. We located your previous reports, complaint number 10317893 from March 8, 2010, and complaint number 10245571 from October 15, 2008. Information submitted by owners via the Internet is automatically entered into our complaint database. ODI reviews and analyzes the data to determine whether an investigation is warranted. If NHTSA feels it is necessary, we will follow up by contacting the vehicle owner. Otherwise the information is used to identify safety-related defect trends. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused you.

In your letter you indicated that you encountered a problem with the computer system in your MY 2005 Mercedes-Benz SL 600. In a prior report you indicated that your anti-lock brakes (ABS) failed which resulted in a crash and your vehicle's air bags failed to deploy. A review of our database relative to electronic problems, specifically computer systems, ABS, and air bag non-deployment in MY 2005 Mercedes-Benz SL600 vehicles revealed insufficient evidence to warrant opening a safety defect investigation at this time. The information you provided has been entered into our database. It will be considered with future reports to identify any safety defect trends that may require our attention.



A number of factors, other than crash severity, can affect whether an air bag will deploy in a given crash; e.g., the angle of impact, the speed of the other vehicle, and the amount of force absorbed by the other vehicle or object that is impacted. Only an expert in crash reconstruction can provide an educated opinion as to whether the air bag in a vehicle should have deployed in a specific crash.

Should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment in the future, we would appreciate it if you would complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq> or call the Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236. Also, a summary listing of vehicle owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc. can be obtained at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems>.

Sincerely,



Randy Reid, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation