

**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

JUL 19 2010

[REDACTED]
Santa Barbara, CA [REDACTED]

NVS-216 nlm
Ref. No. 10324271

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence concerning the daytime running lamps (DRLs) in your model year (MY) 2007 Toyota Matrix. Your correspondence was received by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation.

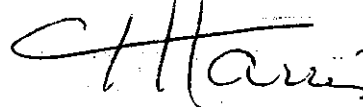
NHTSA is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. However, we cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

We have carefully reviewed your letter and while frustrating to you, the problem you described with your vehicle's DRLs is not considered a safety-related defect. Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 108, Lamps Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment, does not require a manufacturer to equip their vehicles with DRLs, but does contain performance requirements if manufacturers choose to install them on vehicles. If a manufacturer does choose to equip vehicles with DRLs, they may determine how the DRLs are activated. There is a requirement that the DRLs deactivation must occur when the headlamp control is in any "on" position and there are intensity limits as well. While we note that Canada does require vehicles to be equipped with DRLs as you stated, we recommend that you contact Toyota Motor Corporation directly or ask your local Toyota dealership for a meeting with the district manager regarding your request to have the DRLs disabled or the light intensity reduced to the levels specified in FMVSS No.108 to reduce glare.

[REDACTED]

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions, please contact me or Mr. Richard Boyd, Acting Director, Office of Defects Investigation, at (202) 366-4933.

Sincerely yours,



for

Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator
for Enforcement