

**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

January 25, 2011

The Honorable Gary G. Miller
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
1800 East Lambert Road, Suite 150
Brea, CA 92821

NVS-216 nam
Ref. No. 10333959

Dear Congressman Miller:

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of your constituent [REDACTED] wrote concerning an engine failure in his model year (MY) 1998 Toyota Camry vehicle. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation received your report.

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 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 safety defect may exist.

We appreciate the report you provided on behalf of [REDACTED] and the previous report he filed with NHTSA by means of a Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire on May 30, 2010. Each report is analyzed and entered into a database to determine whether an investigation into a possible safety defect is warranted. If necessary, NHTSA will follow up and contact the vehicle owner. Otherwise the information is entered into our database and used to identify safety-related defect trends that may require our attention. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused [REDACTED]

Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. [REDACTED] online complaint stated that his MY 1998 Toyota Camry stalled on the freeway and was rear ended causing a three car crash. He has submitted receipts and has video and photos proving that the cause of the crash was the vehicle's throttle position sensor, idle speed control valve and or other systems being defective.

We have reviewed our database in an effort to identify whether a safety defect trend exists with regard to engine failure, specifically throttle position sensor circuit malfunction, in MY 1998 Toyota Camry vehicles. At this time, there is insufficient evidence to warrant opening a safety



EQIN 00720

Page 2

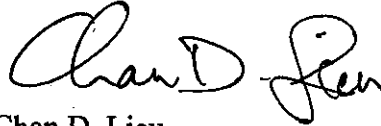
The Honorable Gary G. Miller

defect investigation. A brochure explaining the investigation process is enclosed for [REDACTED] information; or he may visit our web site at:

www.odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/recalls/recallprocess.cfm.

I hope this information is helpful. If further assistance is needed, please contact me or Mr. Claude H. Harris, Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement, at (202) 366-3217.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chan D. Lieu". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Chan D. Lieu
Director, Governmental Affairs,
Policy and Strategic Planning

Enclosure

cc: Washington Office