

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

February 28, 2011

The Honorable Bill Nelson  
United States Senator  
255 East Robinson Street, Suite 410  
Orlando, FL 32801

NVS-216 mec  
Ref. No. 10335955

Dear Senator Nelson:

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] wrote your office concerning her model year (MY) 2008 Toyota Corolla.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (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 defect may exist.

We appreciate the report you provided on behalf of [REDACTED] and her previous reports that we responded to on June 30, 2010, and January 10, 2011. In [REDACTED] correspondence she inquired if we are aware of the recent articles about Toyota. She also mentioned her crash from November 19, 2008, and how Toyota denied having an injection problem; however, she stated she recently received a recall notification for engine control injection. In addition, [REDACTED] indicates that she is participating in a class action suit against Toyota.

The agency is aware of the articles and media attention Toyota has received since [REDACTED] correspondence of January 2010. We searched our database but were unable to locate a recall relating to problems with engine control injectors in MY 2008 Toyota Corolla vehicles. Our research did reveal a recall (NHTSA Safety Recall No. 10V-384, summary enclosed) for stalling due to a defective engine control module that may be of interest to [REDACTED]. We recommend she contact a local Toyota dealership to confirm whether the recall affects her vehicle and to have the recall remedy performed as soon as possible if applicable.



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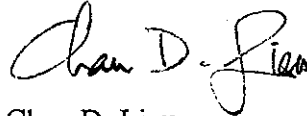
The Honorable Bill Nelson

As [REDACTED] is aware, the MY 2008 Toyota Corolla vehicles are not included in the recalls announced by Toyota that address unintended acceleration (UA). NHTSA will continue to monitor the performance of these vehicles. In addition, NHTSA recently completed a comprehensive study on UA issues and found no electronic flaws in Toyota vehicles capable of producing large throttle openings required to create dangerous high-speed UA incidents.

Private lawsuits, including class action lawsuits, may be brought against manufacturers for a variety of reasons, including claims that have no relation to motor vehicle safety. We are aware that such a class action was brought against Toyota with respect to certain vehicles experiencing unintended acceleration. However, NHTSA did not participate in that proceeding and we are not familiar with the details of any resolution. Moreover, we do not have any authority to enforce the terms of any settlement arising out of the suit.

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

Sincerely yours,



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

Enclosure

cc: Washington Office