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INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(B)(6)**



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

Administrator

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 30, 2010

NVS-216 mec
Ref. No. 10335955

[REDACTED]
Sarasota, FL [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your correspondence to Secretary LaHood concerning the unintended acceleration event you experienced with your 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 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; however, our agency shows no record of receiving a report from you prior to this correspondence. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. We understand your concern for the unintended acceleration you experienced that caused you to spin out of control in reverse; however, the MY 2008 Toyota Corolla is not included in the recalls announced by Toyota that address unintended acceleration.

NHTSA has opened a recall query (RQ10-003, summary enclosed) requesting additional information from Toyota to more fully understand and evaluate, among other things, whether the scope of the recalls identified (makes, models, and model years) is sufficiently broad. NHTSA will continue to monitor the performance of these vehicles. We recommend that you subscribe to receive email recall notifications directly from NHTSA at <http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/index.cfm>. Under Subscriptions, there is a link for Email Notifications

which when opened will display a page titled, "Subscribe To NHTSA's Recall Notification Email System." When you complete the form with your vehicle information and email address and submit the information to NHTSA, you will begin receiving emails for recalls on your vehicle.

For your information, NHTSA is currently undertaking a comprehensive look into the safety of electronic throttle control systems in all vehicles sold in the United States equipped with that technology. The prestigious National Academy of Sciences will examine the broad subject of unintended acceleration and electronic vehicle controls across the entire automotive industry. Separately, NHTSA has enlisted National Aeronautics and Space Administration scientists with expertise in areas such as computer controlled electronic systems, electromagnetic interference, and software integrity to examine the issue of unintended acceleration specifically in Toyota vehicles. If either study should identify a potential safety-related defect, an investigation will be opened.

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

Sincerely yours,

for Ronald L. Medford
David L. Strickland