

CL-10378891-9035

FEB 07 2011

January 15, 2011

NHTSA Headquarters
Attn: Customer Auto Safety Division
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Defective Investigation PE08008
Audi 2003 A6 Leaking Fuel from Gas Tank Assembly
Audi VIN# WAUML64B33N [REDACTED]

Attached, please find evidence I reported my fuel tank leaked fuel to a Los Angeles Audi dealer. I bought the car in 2006 with 66,000 miles and remains with no damage history. In 2008, fuel began dripping at the lower driver side vacuum nipple flange which shifted off the rim of the fuel tank. When the tank was filled passed half full, it would drip onto the ground. There is a valve recall for most 2003 sedan models and the 4.2L Off-road Quattro. This model is a 2003 sedan with the 4.2L engine size and should certainly be included in these two related recalls.

Due to no fault of my own, the nature and severity of the defect, I questioned the problem was a manufactures defect warranting repair and potential recall. They disagreed, said it was out of warranty and quoted me a repair. Valentine asserted the condition was noted to my VIN in their system. Later that year, LA Audi made different repairs and the fuel leak condition was again put on the work order. Finally in June 2010, a neighbor wrote note the car was leaking fuel. It tank was pouring fuel after filling to the three-quarters mark and parking in our subterranean parking garage. Repair could not be avoided. Based on LA Audi's position, a local mechanic replaced the entire tank with a salvage one he found.

Attached are photos, work repair orders, a hazard note from neighbor of the fuel leak, and signed Declaration these item as authentic and all assertions above are truthful. I appreciate assistance obtaining recovery from Audi for the repairs as they refused to when presented twice.

Your assistance in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Encl: Support Documentation

Cc: File

[REDACTED] Beverly Hills, California [REDACTED]

ET
2-10-11
Tew

DEFECT INVESTIGATIONS SUMMARY

NHTSA Action Number:

PE08008

Vehicle Make / Model:

Model Year(s):

AUDI / A6

2005

AUDI / A6 AVANT

2001-2005

AUDI / ALLROAD QUATTRO

2001-2005 (2003)

AUDI / QUATTRO

2001-2002

VOLKSWAGEN / PASSAT

2001-2005

*ITS A6 4.2L QUATTRO NOT
ALL ROAD BUT SAME
IN RECALL EQUIP.*

Manufacturer : VOLKSWAGEN OF AMERICA, INC

Component(s) :

FUEL SYSTEM, OTHER:STORAGE:TANK ASSEMBLY:PRESSURE RELIEF DEVICES

FUEL SYSTEM, GASOLINE:STORAGE:TANK ASSEMBLY

Summary:

VOLKSWAGEN (VW) IS RECALLING CERTAIN VW PASSAT 4MOTION AND AUDI A6 QUATTRO AND ALLROAD QUATTRO ALL-WHEEL DRIVE PASSENGER CARS. VW VEHICLES SUBJECT TO RECALL WERE MANUFACTURED FROM NOVEMBER 22, 2000 THROUGH MAY 31, 2005 AND AUDI VEHICLES SUBJECT TO RECALL WERE MANUFACTURED FROM JUNE 2, 2001 TO JUNE 1, 2005. THE NHTSA RECALL NUMBER FOR THE VW VEHICLES IS 08V-156 (VW ALSO IS CORRECTING DEFECTS RELATED TO HEAT SHIELD AND FUEL LINE HAZARDS FOR THESE VEHICLES AND FOR 1999-2000 PASSATS IN THIS RECALL ACTION.) THE NHTSA RECALL NUMBER FOR THE AUDI VEHICLES IS 08V-157. SINCE 2006, ODI HAS RECEIVED 17 COMPLAINTS OF FUEL LEAKING FROM THE SUBJECT VEHICLES' FUEL TANKS. THE 400 COMPLAINTS SHOWN ABOVE MAY INCLUDE DUPLICATE REPORTS TO ODI AND THE MANUFACTURER. WHILE THE CONSEQUENCE (FUEL LEAKS FROM THE TOP OF THE TANK) IS SIMILAR FOR BOTH THE PASSAT AND AUDI SUBJECT VEHICLES, DIFFERENCES IN DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIRE A DIFFERENT REMEDY FOR EACH VEHICLE. ON THE PASSATS, THE VENTILATION LINE COULD HAVE BEEN INSTALLED IMPROPERLY WITH TENSION AND WITH AN INCORRECTLY POSITIONED CABLE TIE. THE TENSION COULD CAUSE CRACKED OR BROKEN NIPPLES ON THE FUEL TANK ROLLOVER VALVE. ON THE AUDI VEHICLES, A MATERIAL CHANGE (EFFECTIVE JUNE 2, 2001) WITH DIFFERENT AGING CHARACTERISTICS USED FOR THE ROLLOVER VALVE AND THE USE OF AN INFLEXIBLE ALUMINUM VENTILATION LINE COULD CAUSE CRACKING OF THE NIPPLE ON THE ROLLOVER VALVE. VW IS RECALLING ALL VEHICLES SUBJECT TO THESE DEFECTS. IT WILL INSPECT PASSATS TO ENSURE THAT THE VENT LINE IS TENSION FREE AND CORRECT THE INSTALLATION IF TENSION IS FOUND. IF A CRACK OR FUEL LEAK IS FOUND, VW WILL REPLACE THE FUEL TANK. AUDI WILL REPAIR ALL SUBJECT VEHICLES BY REINFORCING THE FUEL TANK ROLLOVER VALVE WITH AN EPOXY ADHESIVE. THIS INVESTIGATION IS CLOSED.

Date Investigation Opened : January 31, 2008

Date Investigation Closed : May 30, 2008

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION (ODI)**Defect Investigation PE08008 has 2 Related Recall(s)****NHTSA Campaign ID number: 08V156000**

Vehicle Make / Model:
VOLKSWAGEN / PASSAT

Model Year(s):
1999-2005

Manufacturer:
VOLKSWAGEN OF AMERICA, INC

Mfr's Report Date:
APR 04, 2008

Component:
FUEL SYSTEM, GASOLINE:DELIVERY

Potential Number of Units Affected:
412,000

Summary:

VOLKSWAGEN IS RECALLING 412,000 MY 1999-2005 PASSAT (5TH GENERATION) VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSIONS AND PRODUCED AFTER JUNE 14, 1999. THESE VEHICLES MAY HAVE AN UNDERBODY HEAT SHIELD THAT CAN BECOME DAMAGED. IN ADDITION, AFFECTED VEHICLES WITH AUTOMATIC OR MANUAL TRANSMISSIONS MAY HAVE A FUEL LINE (1.8T ENGINES ONLY) OR FUEL TANK VENTILATION VALVE (4MOTION/ALL WHEEL DRIVE ONLY) THAT CAN LEAK DUE TO FRACTURE.

Consequence:

A HEAT SHIELD THAT MAY CONTACT THE EXHAUST SYSTEM CAN RESULT IN A VEHICLE FIRE. IN ADDITION, A FUEL LEAK FROM A FUEL LINE OR FUEL TANK VENTILATION VALVE, IN THE PRESENCE OF AN IGNITION SOURCE, CAN LEAD TO A VEHICLE FIRE.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSTALL ADDITIONAL UNDERBODY HEAT SHIELDS ON VEHICLES WITH AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSIONS TO COVER THE POSSIBLY DAMAGED AREAS AND FLASH ALL 1.8T ENGINES WITH A PRECAUTIONARY SOFTWARE UPDATE. DEALERS WILL ALSO INSPECT AND ADJUST THE FUEL LINE ROUTING ON 1.8T VEHICLES AND THE FUEL TANK VENTILATION VALVE ON 4MOTION/ALL WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLES, AND REPLACE COMPONENTS IF NECESSARY FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL BEGAN ON JUNE 13, 2008. OWNERS MAY CONTACT VOLKSWAGEN AT 1-800-822-8987.

Notes:

VWOA RECALL NO. 26E5/R5. CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

Document Search

NHTSA Campaign ID number: 08V157000

Vehicle Make / Model:
AUDI / A6
AUDI / ALLROAD QUATTRO

Model Year(s):
2001-2004
2001-2005

Manufacturer:
VOLKSWAGEN OF AMERICA, INC

Mfr's Report Date:
APR 04, 2008

Component:
FUEL SYSTEM, GASOLINE:STORAGE:TANK
ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected:
68,240

Summary:

VOLKSWAGEN IS RECALLING 68,240 MY 2001-2004 AUDI A6 QUATTRO VEHICLES EQUIPPED

WITH 2.7L, 2.8L, OR 3.0L ENGINES AND MY 2001-2005 ALLROAD QUATTRO VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH 2.7L OR 4.2L ENGINES. THE AGING OF THE PLASTIC MATERIAL IN THE FUEL TANK ROLLOVER VALVE COMBINED WITH BENDING STRESS FROM THE ALUMINUM VENTILATION LINE TO THE ROLLOVER VALVE NIPPLE MAY LEAD TO CRACKING OF THE NIPPLE. IF THIS HAPPENS, A FUEL LEAK MAY RESULT.

Consequence:

A FUEL LEAK IN THE PRESENCE OF AN IGNITION SOURCE COULD LEAD TO A VEHICLE FIRE.

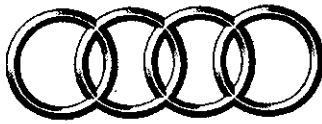
Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REINFORCE THE NIPPLE ON THE ROLLOVER VALVE TO PREVENT LEAKAGE OR REPAIR THE CRACKING AT THE NIPPLE. THE RECALL BEGAN ON JUNE 27, 2008. OWNERS MAY CONTACT AUDI AT 1-800-822-2834.

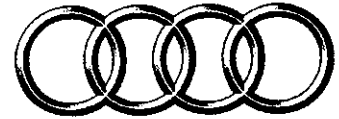
Notes:

VW RECALL NO. 20L8/JY. CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

[Document Search](#)[Close Window](#)



Audi
of
DOWNTOWN L. A.
1900 S. FIGUEROA STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90007
(213)763-0819



RECOMMENDED SERVICES

OPERATION	OPERATION DESCRIPTION	MO/MI	TOTAL	OPERATION	OPERATION DESCRIPTION	MO/MI	TOTAL
04AUZ-27POINT 19AUZCOOLSVC 03AUZ-BGBKSF 03AUZ-BGCCS 03AUZ-BGEVAP	27 POINT SAFETY INSP COOLING SERVICE BG BRAKE FLUSH BG CLIMATE CONTROL BG EVAPORATOR SVC.	MI MI MI MI MI		24AUZSENSOR 03AUZ-BGBATT 03AUZ-BGBLOF 03AUZ-BGEOF 03AUZ-BGFU	02 SENSOR BG BATTERY SERVICE "BETTER" OIL CHANGE "BEST" OIL CHANGE BG FUEL INJECTOR SVC	MI MI MI MI MI	

SERVICE HISTORY

DATE	REPAIR ORDER	MILEAGE	ADVISOR	TECHNICIAN	TYPE	OPERATION	OPERATION DESCRIPTION
09/28/07	356831	76323	4366	5986	C	24AUZ	CONTINUOUS INJECTION
04/19/07	352291	76323	4366	5986	C	46AUZ	BRAKES MECHANICAL
03/06/07	350921	75195	4366	5988	C	19AUZ	COOLING SYSTEM
				5988	C	05AUZINTER6CYL	INTER SERVICE 6 CYL
				5988	C	94AUZ	LIGHTS - EXTERIOR
				5988	C	46AUZ	BRAKES MECHANICAL

SALESPERSON NO.

S E R V I C E

STATE REG# AC 130955

TERMS CASH ☐ CREDIT CARD ☐ CHECK ☐ SALE APPROVAL ☐ OTHER ☐	VEHICLE I.D. NO. WAUML64B33N	YEAR/MAKE/MODEL 03/AUDI/A6 4.2	PRODUCTION DATE	STOCK NO.	LICENSE NO.	R. O. NO. 360882
SAVE REMOVED PARTS FOR CUSTOMER ☐ YES ☐ NO	RESIDENCE PHONE	BUSINESS PHONE	CUSTOMER NO. 144738	SERVICE CONTRACT	DELIVERY DATE	DELIVERY MILES
	TIME RECEIVED 07:22am	DATE/TIME PROMISED 02/19/08 09:42am	PRIORITY 1	COLOR BLACK/	CONTRACT NO.	EXPIRATION DATE
				TURBO ☐ M/MC ☐ AIR COND. ☐ P.S. ☐ TRANS ☐	MILEAGE 85,537	ADVISOR NO. 5631
						ADVISOR VALENTIN RAUTESCU
APPOINTMENT ☐ Yes ☒ No			LABOR RATE			

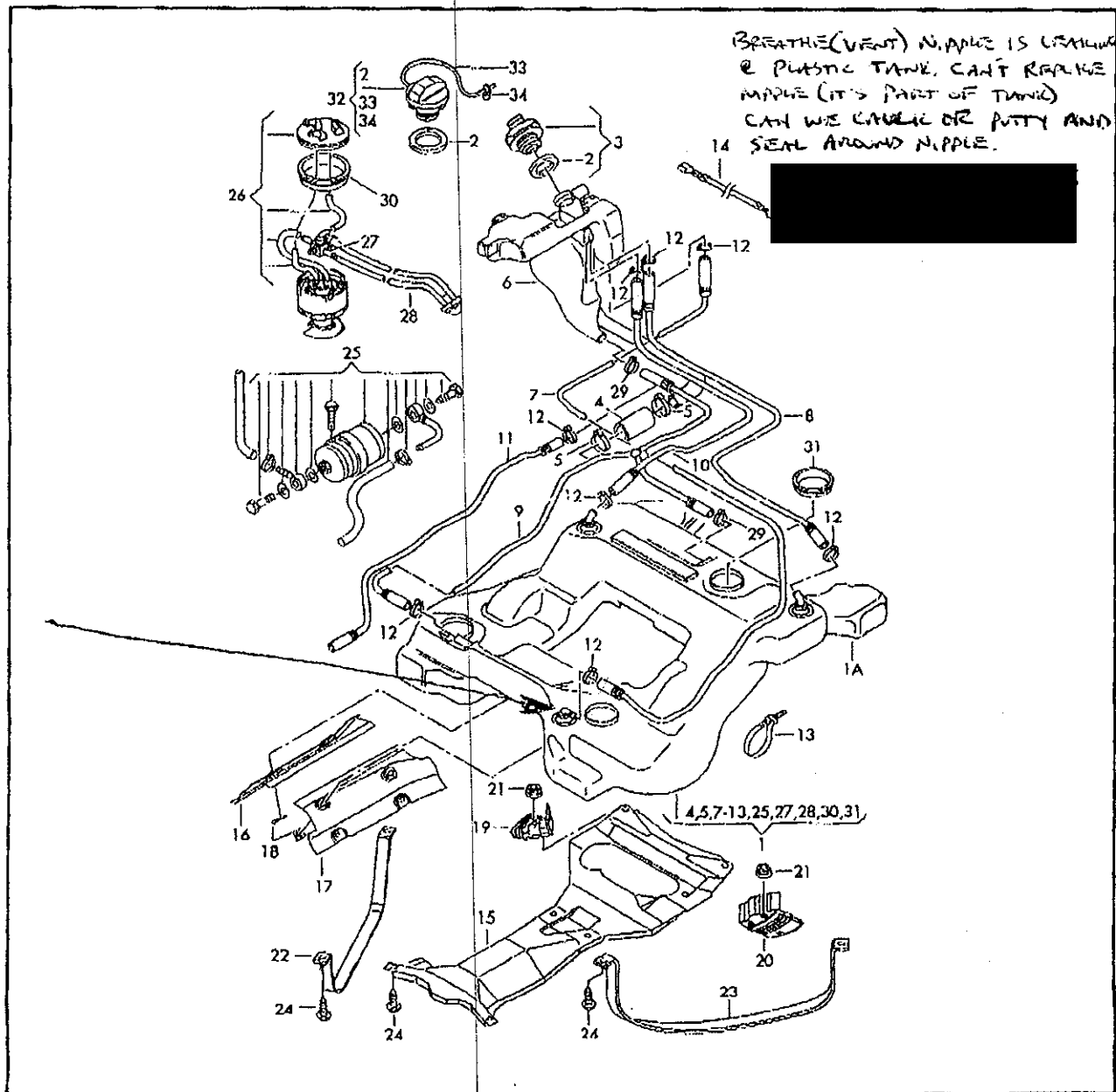
ORIGINAL CUSTOMER ESTIMATE:	PARTS	LABOR	TOTAL
	0.00	79.95	79.95
COMMENTS:			
1 C 20AUZ FUEL SYSTEM CUSTOMER STATES CAR IS LEAKING GAS BY THE REAR OF THE CAR			
2 C 05AUZINTER8CYL INTER SERVICE 8 CYL OIL AND OIL FILTER CHANGE \$79.95 RF, LR			
TERMS: STRICTLY CASH FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE WE ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CREDIT CARDS: VISA • MASTERCARD • AMERICAN EXPRESS WE ALSO ACCEPT PERSONALIZED CHECKS. TO \$1000.00 ON THE APPROVAL OF TELECREDIT. ALL OTHER TERMS ARE CASH.			
SERVICE AND PARTS DEPT. HOURS MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. SAT. 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. VEHICLES MUST BE PICKED UP DURING SERVICE DEPARTMENT HOURS.			
IMPORTANT: REMOVE ALL PERSONAL PROPERTY AND VALUABLES FROM YOUR VEHICLE. WE DO NOT ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSS OR DAMAGE FOR ARTICLES LEFT IN YOUR VEHICLE.			
Thank you for this opportunity to serve you. It is our aim to perform all repairs to your complete satisfaction. If you are not completely satisfied, please contact us immediately.			
ALL PARTS INSTALLED ARE NEW UNLESS SPECIFIED OTHERWISE. ALL PARTS REMOVED FROM YOUR VEHICLE WILL BE DISCARDED UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED.			
PRIOR BODY DAMAGE			
THANK YOU Audi of DOWNTOWN L. A.			



ETKA

Model	Year	MG	SG	Illustration	Restrictions	UPD	14:35	18.02.2008
A6	2003	2	01	201-15		687		

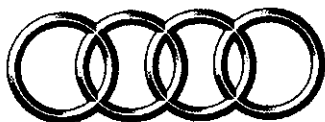
EC	TC	VIN No.	FI SUGGESTION	Sales Type
AWN	FUL	WAUML64B33N [REDACTED]		4B451Z



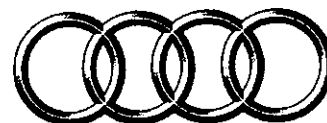
et_bild.frm

ATTENTION : [REDACTED]

EPIS 264



Audi
of
DOWNTOWN L.A.
1900 S. FIGUEROA STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90007
(213)763-0819



KEYES AUDI- 877.275.2834

CELL: [REDACTED]

CUSTOMER NO. 144738	ADVISOR VALENTIN RAUTESCU 5631	TAG NO. V96	INVOICE DATE 09/22/08	INVOICE NO. AUCS367124
NA LOS ANGELES, CA [REDACTED]	LICENSE NO.	MILEAGE 93,403	COLOR BLACK/	STOCK NO.
	YEAR/MAKE/MODEL 03/AUDI/A6 4.2		DELIVERY DATE	DELIVERY MILES
	VEHICLE ID. NO. WAUML64B33N [REDACTED]		SELLING DEALER NO.	PRODUCTION DATE
	F.T.E. NO.	P.O. NO.	R.O. DATE 09/17/08	
RESIDENCE PHONE	BUSINESS PHONE	COMMENTS		
			MO: 93403	

JOB# 1 CHARGES

LABOR-----
J# 1 24AUZENGLT CHECK ENGINE LIGHT TECH(S):5227 0.00
CUSTOMER STATES THE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT IS ON .ENGINE MAKES
NOISE WHEN STARTED
GAS TANK IS LEAKING VACUUM,GAS TANK WAS PREVIOUSLY
RECOMMENDED
PARTS \$1306.00 LABOR \$1350.00

SUBLET-----PO#-----VEND INV#-INV.DATE-DESCRIPTION-----
1302888 09/22/08 RENTAL
TOTAL - SUBLET INTERNAL 0.00

JOB# 1 TOTALS-----

JOB# 2 CHARGES-----

LABOR-----
J# 2+37AUZ AUTOMATIC TRANS TECH(S):5227 INTERNAL
REPLACE TRANSMISSION FLUID
AS REQUESTED .
COMPLETED .
TRANSMISSION FLUID WAS BURNED ,FOUND METAL DEBRIS INSIDE
THE TRANSMISSION,TRANSMISSION HAS INTERNAL WEAR ,SHIFTS
VERY HARD ,BANGS IN GEAR .
TRANSMISSION NEEDS REPLACEMENT .PART \$5203.00 LABOR \$1450.00

PARTS-----	QTY-----	FP-NUMBER-----	DESCRIPTION-----	UNIT PRICE-----
	5	G-052-162-A2	ATF OIL	28.49
	1	01L-325-429-B	STRAINER	
	1	01L-321-371	GASKET	
	1	01B-321-377-B	SCREW	
TOTAL - PARTS				142.45

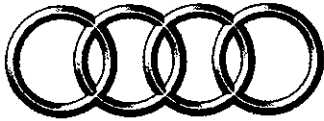
JOB# 2 TOTALS-----

PARTS 142.45

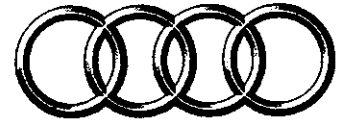
JOB# 2 JOURNAL PREFIX AUCS JOB# 2 TOTAL 142.45

ESTIMATE-----
CUSTOMER HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIVING
ORIGINAL ESTIMATE OF \$145.00 (+TAX)

COMMENTS-----
[REDACTED]



Audi
of
DOWNTOWN L.A.
1900 S. FIGUEROA STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90007
(213)763-0819



CELL: 503-998-3595

CUSTOMER NO. 144738		ADVISOR VALENTIN RAUTESCU		5631	TAG NO. V96	INVOICE DATE 09/22/08	INVOICE NO. AUCS367124
NA LOS ANGELES, CA		LICENSE NO.		MILEAGE 93,403		COLOR BLACK/	STOCK NO.
		YEAR / MAKE / MODEL 03/Audi/A6 4.2		DELIVERY DATE		DELIVERY MILES	
		VEHICLE I.D. NO. WAUML64B33N		SELLING DEALER NO.		PRODUCTION DATE	
RESIDENCE PHONE		BUSINESS PHONE		F.T.E. NO.		P.O. NO.	R. DATE 09/17/08
COMMENTS		MO: 93403					

TOTALS

TOTAL LABOR....	0.00
TOTAL PARTS....	142.45
TOTAL SUBLET...	0.00
TOTAL G.O.G....	0.00
TOTAL MISC CHG.	0.00
TOTAL MISC DISC	0.00
TOTAL TAX.....	11.75
TOTAL INVOICE \$	154.20

CUSTOMER SIGNATURE

BAR # ARD130955 • EPA # CAD981692973

The Reynolds and Reynolds Company EPA/TS14E 03215174.0 (07/08)

07879

[illegible]

PLEASE

DO NOT
TURN ON
CAR!!

- Your GAS

Tank is Leaking!!

[REDACTED]
Southwestern Law Candidate

[REDACTED]
Beverly Hills, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of
VOLKSWAGON OF AMERICA ,

RE: NHTSA Action Number (or Related): PE08008

WRITTEN DECLARATION OF FACT

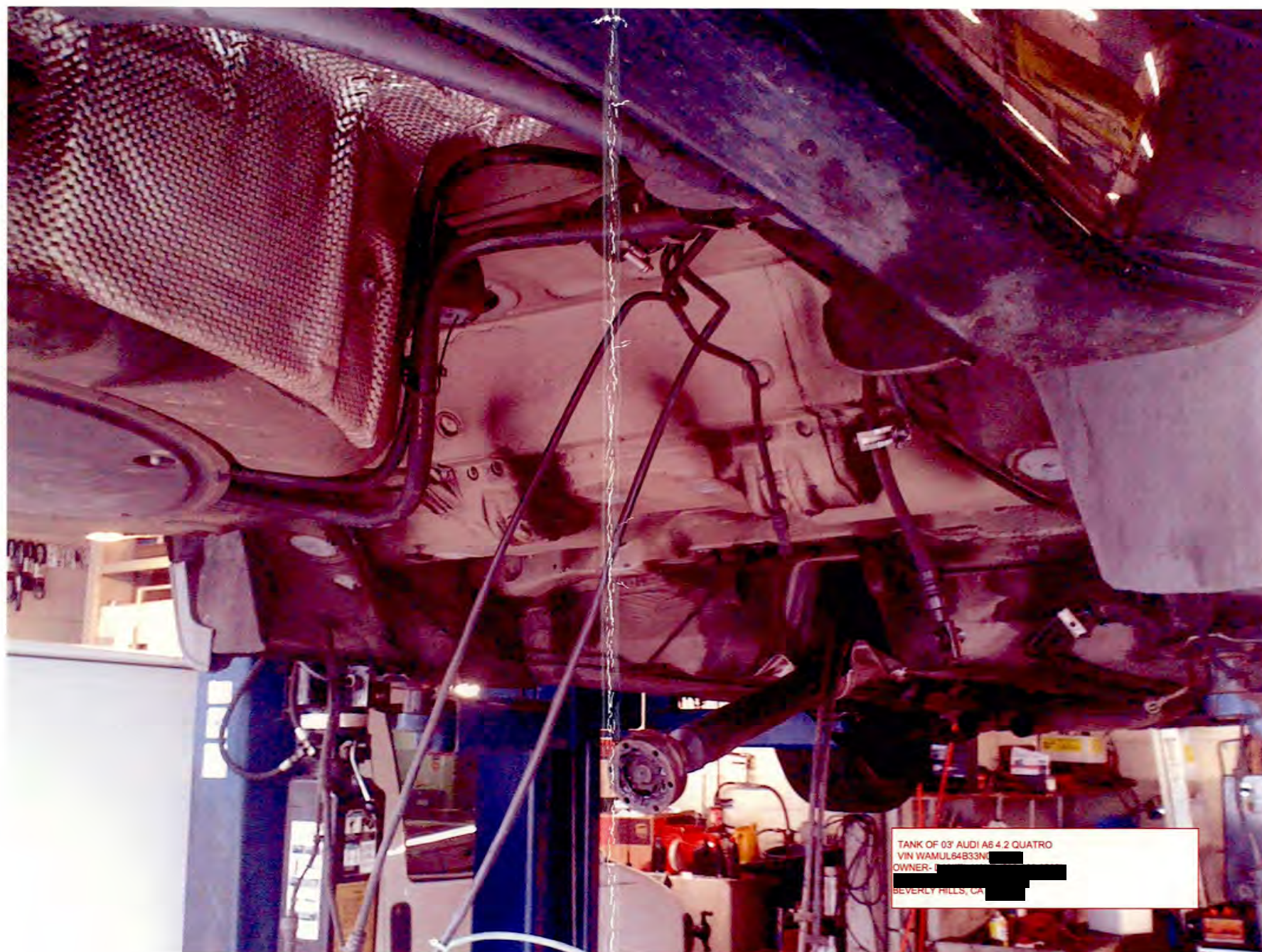
[REDACTED] being of lawful age duly swears the documents and description of relevant facts described in his letter to NHTSA, dated January 15, 2011 is true to best of my knowledge.

[REDACTED]

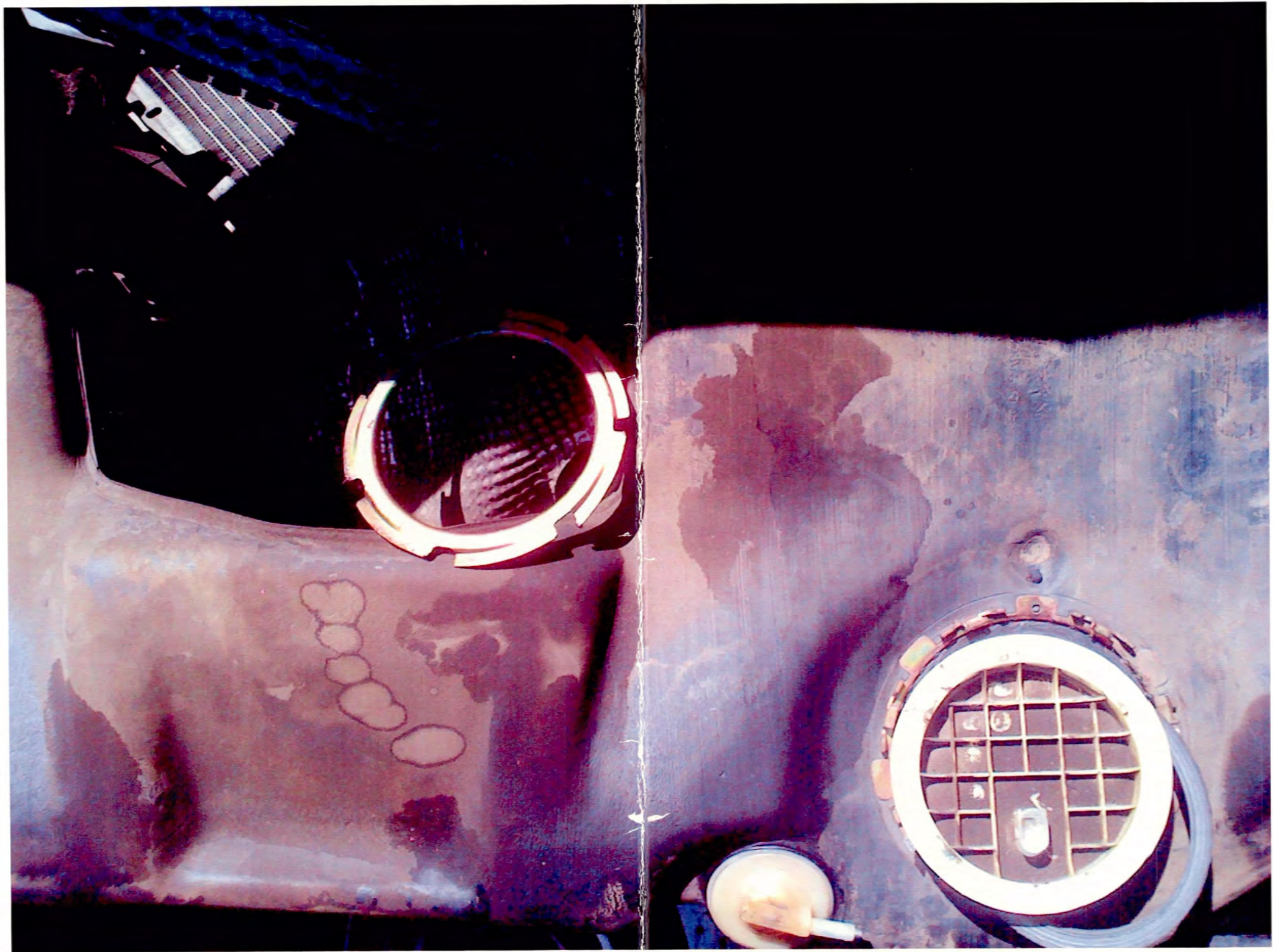
SUBSCRIBED and SWORN on this 15th day of January, 2011.

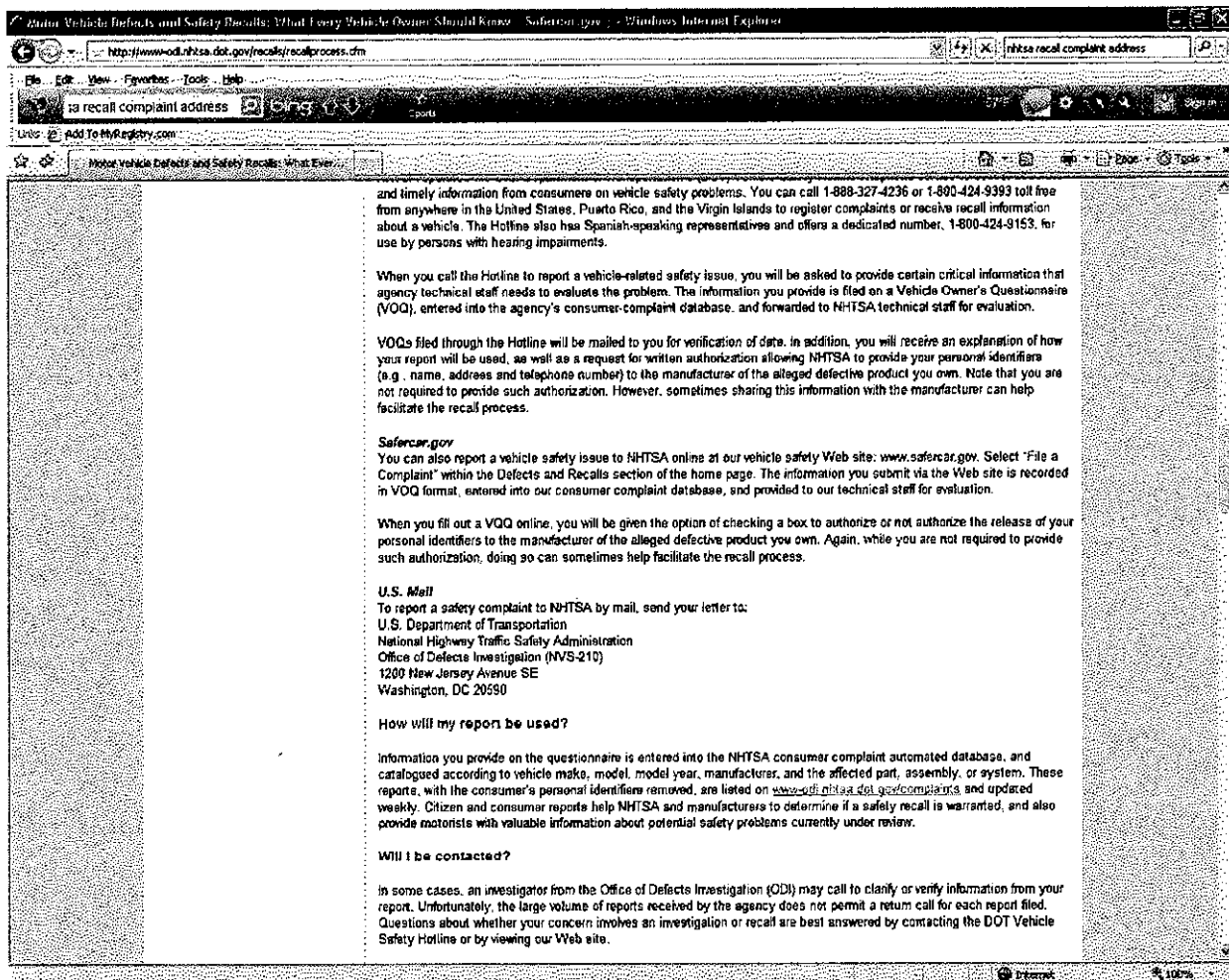
TANK OF 03' AUDI A8 4.2 QUATRO
VIN WAMUL64B33N
OWNER [REDACTED]
BEVERLY HILLS, CA [REDACTED]

VACUUM VALVE PUSHED OR SUCKED OFF
TANK RIM, LEAKED WORSE OVER TIME, UNTIL
FLOWING OFF TANK IN 7/2010



TANK OF 03' AUDI A6 4.2 QUATRO
VIN WAMUL64B33N [REDACTED]
OWNER- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
BEVERLY HILLS, CA





PLEASE UPDATE NHTSA MAIN WEBSITE
W/ CORRECT ADDRESS. MAIL SHOULD
BE FORWARDED NOT RETURNED TO SENDER.

BSH, CA

X-RAYED

FEB 07 2011

SECURITY OPERATIONS



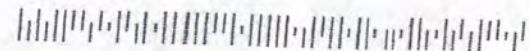
FORWARD SERVICE
REQUESTED

US DOT
NHTSA

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVEST (NVS-210)

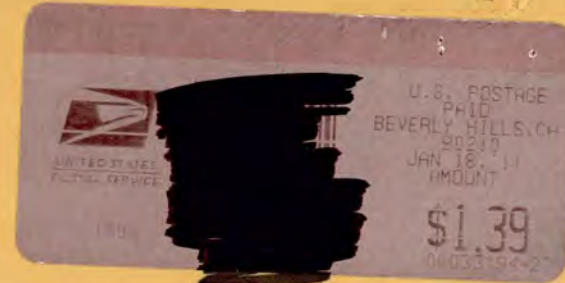
400 7TH ST SW

WASHINGTON, DC 20590



BH, CA

RETURN TO SENDER
ADDRESSEE UNKNOWN
ADDRESSEE NOT AT THIS LOCATION
UNABLE TO LOCATE
INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION
NO LONGER AT DOT HEADQUARTERS



EF

NHTSA HEADQUARTERS
1200 NEW JERSEY AVE, SE
WEST BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC