NHTSA ccmMercury Routing Slip

Printed: 2/24/2011

NHTSA #: ES11-001270	Rec'd Date: 2/24/2011	Referred By: NPO-011
XREF #:	Doc Type: CNG	Doc Date: 2/17/2011
Delivery: MESSENGER ENV.	Address To: DOT/I	**Due Date: 3/11/2011**
S10 #:	DOT/I #: 2011-2146	RMP #:

Subject: LETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN CASEY ON BEHALF OF CONSTITUENT [redacted] REGARDING SAFETY RECALL: "CORROSION ON LOWER TRAILING LINK FRONT BRACKETS" HONDA SERVICE BULLETIN 10-079 FOR HIS 2001 HONDA PASSPORT VIN #486DM58W014[redacted]

Ack Date:	Ack By:	
Sign Office: DIR. GOVT. AFFAIRS	Signature: CHAN LIEU	Signed For:
Cleared Date:	Cleared By:	Cleared For:
File Loc:	XREF File:	**Closed Date:**
Added By: TMAPP x62870	Modified By: TAMMY.MAPP	

Most Recent Comment:

Author:

THE HONORABLE ROBERT P CASEY, JR.
UNITED STATES SENATE

CL-10385348-84191

WASHINGTON, DC 20510
Tel: Fax: E-mail:

2011 FEB 24 A 10:

Assigned To	Task	Asgn Date	Deadline	Returned Date
NVS-200	REPLY	2/24/2011	3/11/2011	
NVS-010	INFORMATION	2/24/2011		2/24/2011
NIA-110	INFORMATION	2/24/2011		2/24/2011

FEB 2 [illegible] 2011

INFORMATION Redacted PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(B)(6)

MC
02/25/2011
KB

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.
PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
FOREIGN RELATIONS
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
JOINT ECONOMIC

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

HARRISBURG OFFICE:
22 S. THIRD STREET, SUITE 6A
HARRISBURG, PA 17101
(717) 231-7540
http://casey.senate.gov

February 17, 2011

Mr. Robert Letteney
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Letteney:

My office has been contacted by [redacted] regarding concerns about his 2001 Honda Passport. I am enclosing a copy of the correspondence I have received.

Please review [redacted] correspondence and provide a status regarding his concerns that I may share with him.

If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact Michael Deery in my Office of Constituent Services at (717) 231-7552.

Thank you for attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Casey, Jr.

Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

ESII-001270

Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.
Case Information and Privacy Act Release Form
Please return to our office either by email, fax, or U.S. mail.
Office of Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.
22 South Third Street, Suite 6-A
Harrisburg, PA 17101
(717) 231-7542 (fax)
Submitting this form to other offices will result in unnecessary delays.

The Privacy Act of 1974 is a federal law designed to protect you from any unauthorized use and exchange of personal information by federal agencies. Any information that a federal agency has on file regarding your dealings with the United States government may not, with a few exceptions, be given to another agency or Member of Congress without your written permission. Family members, friends, or other interested parties generally may not authorize on your behalf the release of information covered by the Privacy Act.

I hereby request the assistance of the office of **Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.**, to resolve the matter described on page 2 of this document. I authorize **Senator Casey and his staff** to receive any information they might need to provide this assistance.

I certify that the information I have provided to **Senator Casey and his staff** is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. The assistance I have requested from **Senator Casey's office** is in no way an attempt to evade or violate any federal, state, or local law.

SIGNED: [redacted] DATE: 2/17/11

Name: (please print) [redacted] Date of Birth: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

City: WARRIORS MARK State: PA Zip Code: [redacted]

Day Telephone: [redacted] Evening Telephone: [redacted]

E-mail Address: [redacted]

Federal Agency Involved: NHTSA Case Number (if applicable): 10377069

Social Security Number (if applicable): _____ Passport Number (if applicable): _____

Do you currently have a case pending before a local, state or federal court pertaining to this matter?

YES: ____ NO: X If yes, please explain

Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.
Case Information and Privacy Act Release Form
Page 2

Please describe the problem for which you are requesting assistance. You may attach additional sheets if necessary. Any documents sent to this office will be electronically archived and the documents will be destroyed. Do not send originals.

My 2001 Honda Passport Vin # 4S6DM58W014[redacted] was taken in to Dix Honda in State College, PA on January 10, 2011 for Safety Recall: "Corrosion on Lower Trailing Link Front Brackets" Honda Service Bulletin 10-079. The testing procedure involved pounding a 9" flat punch through the frame of the rear of the vehicle to test for structural defects. This procedure opened a hole approximately 3-inches wide x 12-inches long in the frame of the passenger side of the vehicle, rendering it unsafe. Despite my request to not attempt an illegal repair: a "loophole" in the NHTSA approved recall was taken advantage of by Honda via the Service Manager, Tom Latosky to rivet on a "Stage 3" 8-inch long repair bracket to partially cover the hole in the perforated rusted out frame and declare the vehicle "repaired"! However, the vehicle will now not pass PA safety inspection due to a 3" remaining hole in the frame and other frame perforations and the vehicle is unsafe for me or my family to use and is thus useless. Pictures taken before inspection, after the inspection procedure, and after repair procedure pictures are included. Both the local dealership and Honda of America are saying that it is "not their problem" despite meetings, numerous emails, and phone calls to resolve the issue. Similar vehicles are being bought back by Isuzu Motors—who originally manufactured the vehicles. The frame supplier, Dana Manufacturing of Ohio recently paid a $25Million settlement to Toyota for faulty frames made on the same assembly line at the same time and used on recalled Tacoma trucks.

Specifically state the assistance you request from our office and the outcome you desire. Please include copies of any documents or materials you think we should have to assist with your case. Please limit your attachments to no more than 5 pages.

Please contact Dix Honda so that they are aware that their actions are illegal in the State of PA and that these actions are not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

Tom Latosky/Service Mgr: 814-238-6711
David Dix/Owner: 814-238-6711

Contact Honda of America to request that they fully comply with the intent of the NHTSA recall rather than trying to use loop-holes to avoid the proper avenue. Specifically, they should repair both my (and other vehicles) frames or buy back the vehicles if they will not pass PA inspection procedures after their "repair".

Bruce Wilson/Regional Manager: Pittsburgh
Matt Caldarella/ Customer Service Director: 1-800-899-1009 x117735
American Honda Motor Company Management
1919 Torrence Blvd, Torrence CA 90501

NHTSA should be contacted and forced to open an investigation/recall on the perforated frames since the issue is the frames rusting out and separating causing the vehicle to go out of control rather than the "lower trailing Link" as the recall states and Mr. Rhinehardt indicated this was simply "easier to implement." This was after acknowledging that the real problem is that the fully-boxed frames are rusting completely through from the inside-out!

NHTSA safety Engineer Derek Rhinehardt
NHTSSA Recall Management