



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

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

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

January 31, 2012

The Honorable John Yarmuth
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
600 Martin Luther King, Jr. Place, Suite 216
Louisville, KY 40202

NVS-216 nam
Ref. No. 10409490

Dear Congressman Yarmuth:

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED] who wrote concerning his model year (MY) 2011 Ford E-150 vehicle.

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. We also monitor the adequacy of manufacturers' recall campaigns. 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 cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

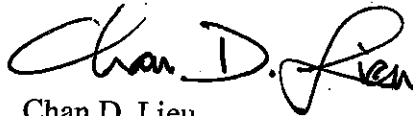
[REDACTED] filed several reports with NHTSA. Information submitted by owners is automatically entered into our complaint database. NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) reviews and analyzes the data to determine whether an investigation is warranted. If NHTSA feels it is necessary, we will follow up by contacting the vehicle owner. [REDACTED] indicated he is experiencing a severe sway problem in his MY 2011 Ford E-150 vehicle, and he alleges that the undersized anti-sway bar is the problem.

We have reviewed our database regarding suspension, steering and structure problems involving vehicle sway in MY 2011 Ford E-150 vehicles. In addition, ODI technical personnel conducted performance evaluations of exemplary vehicles. We found no indication of a safety-related defect in the suspension system of MY 2011 Ford E-150 vehicles. At this time, there is insufficient evidence to warrant opening a safety defect investigation.

██████████ mentioned Ford's technical service bulletin No. 10-9-8 (summary enclosed), regarding steering wander in MY 2008 through MY 2010 Ford E-150, E-250, and E-350 vehicles. The MY 2011 Ford E-150 is not included in this technical service bulletin. Furthermore, the issuance of a technical service bulletin does not necessarily reflect the existence of a safety-related defect in accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. A brochure explaining the investigation process is enclosed for ██████████ information, or he may visit our website at www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/recalls/recallprocess.cfm. The information you provided on behalf of ██████████ has been entered into our database. It will be considered with future reports to identify any safety defect trends that may require our attention.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions, please contact me or Ms. Nancy L. Lewis, Associate Administrator for Enforcement, at (202) 366-3217.

Sincerely yours,



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

Enclosures

cc: Washington Office