



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 27, 2012

Ms. Becky Papke
Oregon Department of Justice
Civil Enforcement Division
1162 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

NVS-216 et
Ref. No. 10421503

Dear Ms. Papke:

Thank you for your correspondence concerning your constituent, [REDACTED] wrote concerning his model year (MY) 1996 Nissan Maxima vehicle. Your letter was received by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation.

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.

You state that Nissan has not addressed [REDACTED] complaint concerning an alternator fire in his MY 1996 Nissan Maxima. You believe this is a safety-related problem rather than a warranty issue. You inquire if there is any recall information we can provide that may assist [REDACTED]

Our database has revealed a recall (NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign No. 02V-171) that addresses fires igniting within alternators; however, the safety recall only involves MY 1997 through MY 1999 Nissan Maxima vehicles. At this time, there is insufficient evidence to warrant expanding the scope of NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign No. 02V-171 to include MY 1996 Nissan Maxima vehicles. The information you provided has been entered into our database. It will be considered with future reports to identify any safety defect trends that may require our attention.

★★★★★
NHTSA
www.nhtsa.gov

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has jurisdiction over non-safety defects, paint, fraud or deception, warranty and dealership problems, remuneration matters, and fair trade practices. There are three ways you can contact the FTC: by toll free telephone at 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357); by mail at Federal Trade Commission, CRC-240, Washington, DC 20580; and by using the Internet complaint form at www.ftc.gov/ftc/complaint.htm.

Should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment in the future, we would appreciate it if you would complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq or call the Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236. Also, a summary listing of vehicle owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc. can be obtained at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Reid".

Randy Reid, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement