

Aug 2, 2012

National Highway and Traffic Administration, AUG 13 2012
Dear Madam / Sir,

I am enclosing copies of documents I sent to General Motors Customer Service about the failure of the ABS system on my Grandson's 2002 Chevrolet Pick up truck. you can see from the crude map I have enclosed that even if the instrument panel warning light had activated to warn him, there still wouldn't have been time to correct the path of the truck to avoid the cars in driveway. The failure of the ABS system renders the braking system inoperative. My house is about 3 feet below the street and the short distance involved and the slope from the street guaranteed this accident was going to happen. On the highway (55 MPH) this would have been much worse.

I feel there should be a way to override the ABS system when it fails and not lose completely the conventional braking system. Your concern will be greatly appreciated.



Highland, Mo.

August 2, 2012

Customer Service,

General Motors Benefit & Service Center,

Dear Madam/Sir,

My Grandson was returning home the later part of June with his 2002 diesel powered Chevrolet pickup. As he turned into the driveway, the pickup brakes failed. The pedal was hard but would not slow the vehicle down. The ABS system had failed but the warning light on the dash did not illuminate to warn him. To add to the problem, my house is below the road and the sloping downward caused the pickup to accelerate on the driveway. There was no time to correct the steering away from a 1998 Oldsmobile at the bottom of the driveway (about 35 feet). After hitting this vehicle, he managed to turn slightly but not enough to miss a 1991 Cadillac DeVille on a pull off adjacent to the garage. The pickup finally stopped in the yard of the house adjacent to mine.

Insurance covered all 3 vehicles but due to the age and un-availability of parts, the DeVille and Oldsmobile were scrap. Both vehicles had been religiously maintained and were in showroom condition. I would gladly have spent additional money to have them repaired. The Olds was my daily driver and I expected 3 more years out of it. The Cadillac was the biggest loss and it still keeps me awake at night when I think about it.

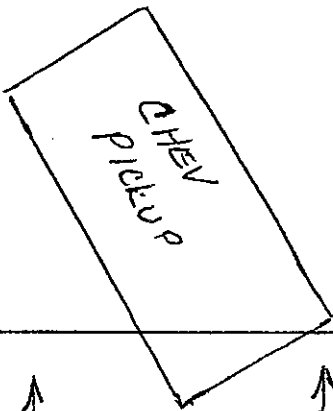
The lines, the color, the chrome trim, the bumpers, were unbetrievable. I rarely drove it that I didn't get a compliment. Only 4 years from antique status.

The ABS system on the pickup was de-activated and it was driven to the body shop. After repair my Grandson was able to create the same condition under a more controlled environment. But once again, the warning light now came on. Deactivating again, the truck was driven to a repair shop. If this had happened on the highway (55 MPH speed) before turning into the subdivision, the results could have been catastrophic.

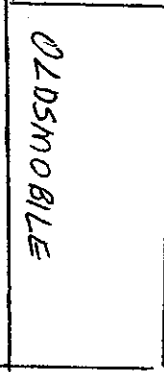
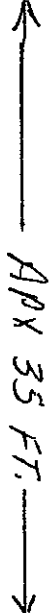
It seems to me there should be an override system built into the system to prevent brake failure completely like this.

[REDACTED]
Highland, Mi [REDACTED]

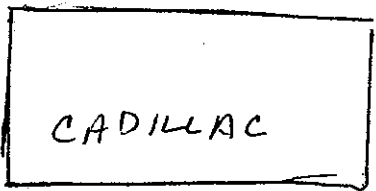
ROAD IN FRONT OF HOUSE



DRIVEWAY

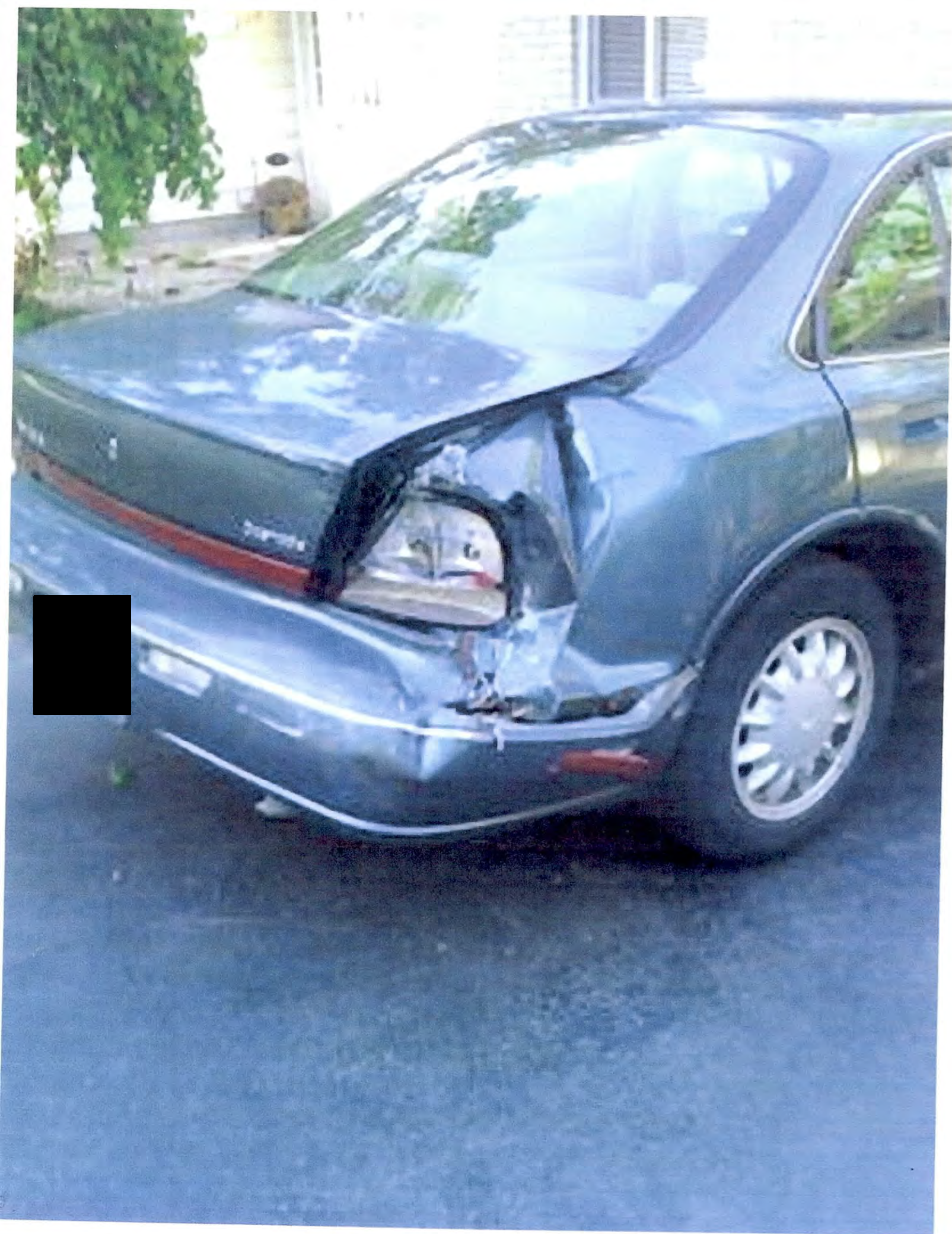


CEMENT
PULL OFF



GARAGE

HOUSE

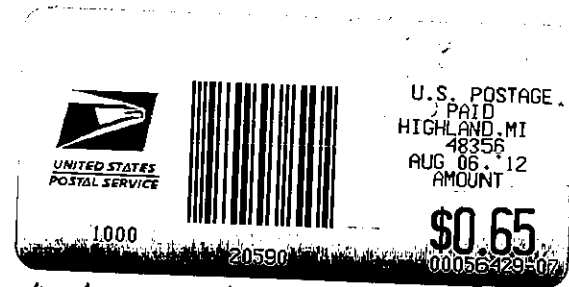








Highland, MI



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