



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

August 23, 2013

[REDACTED]  
Burlington, MA [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

NVS-216 nlm  
Ref. N. 10532514

Thank you for your correspondence concerning your model year (MY) 2008 Chevrolet Malibu. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation received your correspondence.

NHTSA is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair motor 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 trend may exist. We do not have authority to act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

You indicate your MY 2008 Chevrolet Malibu would not move when you applied the accelerator. The engine revved, odometer went from 0 to 60, tachometer went to 5,000 rpms, and then the vehicle suddenly accelerated. The engine began revving again, the condition repeated, and the vehicle would not maintain a steady speed. The dealer's diagnostic test determined that the pressure control solenoid shorted which subsequently shorted the transmission control module (TCM). The dealer explained there are no recalls; therefore, you want to make NHTSA aware of this problem.

We have reviewed our database in an effort to identify whether a safety defect trend exists with regard to transmission electrical control system problems causing delayed acceleration and engine revving in MY 2008 Chevrolet Malibu vehicles. At this time, there is insufficient evidence to indicate a defect trend and thus warrant opening a safety defect investigation.

However, 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. The NHTSA investigation and recall process is on our web site at [www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/recalls/recallprocess.cfm](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/recalls/recallprocess.cfm).

Should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment in the future, you can complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov) 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 on our website.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Reid". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.

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