

To the attention of: 1/7/15 pg 1 of 3
National Transportation and Safety Board

My name is [REDACTED] and I am writing in reference to the 2001 Mercedes-Benz ML55 AMG that I recently purchased on June 15, 2013 for a gift to myself upon graduating from college. It is a known fact that this particular year/make/model has a defective sensor near the right front tire that when functioning is suppose to prevent rollovers in the S.U.V. especially in harsh weather whether it's snow, ice, mud, rain, etc... however, my vehicle's sensor which again is very common was defective and I had it diagnosed at a authorized dealer(s) here in Shreveport, LA particularly Berteis Motor's located off of Kings Hwy charged \$99 for the diagnostic test and he ordered the part for the Mercedes-Benz dealership from Shreveport, LA located on Bert-Kounz I believe it is Holmes Mercedes-Benz. Although the sensor is a common malfunction, there was not a recall on the part; instead the price for the part was priced in the thousands of dollars completely different from the \$300 or so est. that Berteis motor's had given me in which he sent the "supposed" wrong part(sensor) back to the MB dealer. By that time, I was already at the shop
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prepared to pay for the parts/labor when he then informed me of the price change which was drastically different. However... the vehicle would continue to lock-up making it a hazard not only to myself but to other drivers as well. As a recent college graduate from LSU-Shreveport, LA campus, I could not afford the pricey small device and I continued to go to the internet and read comments about the vehicle and it corresponded with the same defective part on my front/right tire.

In November 20, 2013 I was heading home when all of a sudden the usual occurred without warning as this was the first time I'd drove my vehicle in several months and car-pooled with friends instead. As I was headed home for Thanksgiving, just as I was passing in front of the Shreveport Police Dept. the F/R tire locked and I grabbed the wheel to prevent brushing against parked cars on my right side and steered left, making a U-turn facing on-coming traffic, avoiding collision, and upon over-compensating for the malfunction, the vehicle still managed to flip on it's roof then over again on all four tires when I was stopped by a light pole, and usually, the
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once the vehicle locks up, I turn the ignition off, pull the keys out, wait 10 seconds, place the keys back in the ignition, and restart the vehicle, and it won't happen again for the remainder of the vehicle is running. However, on Nov. 20, 2013, the S.U.V. came out of the locked position, sending me in the vehicle with a broken windshield, broken sunroof, broken driver's window, and broken passenger-rear small window back and forth into oncoming traffic avoiding all vehicles directly but indirectly caused a collision of two other vehicles.

I would like to pursue this investigation in conjunction with the NTSB and/or be directed to someone who does deal with issues such as mine even if it means going thru legalities thru the courts. The vehicle which was financed was totaled and recovered by the dealership. Please contact me at the below address promptly. There should have been a recall to prevent safety hazards from happening such as mine.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Natchitoches, LA [REDACTED]