



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

November 5, 2015

The Honorable H. Morgan Griffith  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
323 West Main Street  
Abingdon, VA 24210

NVS-216 nam  
Ref. No. 10761575

Dear Congressman Griffith:

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED], concerning his model year (MY) 1995 Ford Bronco. Your letter was forwarded to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). I am pleased to respond.

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. However, we do not have authority to act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

[REDACTED] indicates that his MY 1995 Ford Bronco exploded and burned in his driveway. He purchased the vehicle in 2009. He states that a friend told him there was a recall on the vehicle that was announced in 2002 and again in 2005. He was also told there was no time limit on the recall. [REDACTED] states that he contacted Ford and a representative took his statement but he never received a response. [REDACTED] feels that Ford should have contacted him to explain why he did not receive a recall notice.

We located a recall that describes a safety defect that may have caused the fire in [REDACTED] vehicle. On September 7, 2005, NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign No. 05V-388 was initiated to address a problem with speed control deactivation switches that may overheat and cause a fire in certain MY 1994 through MY 1996 Ford Bronco vehicles and other Ford vehicles (enclosed). Ford mailed owner notification letters in December 2005 based on the most current registration information at that time. [REDACTED] did not receive the notification because he purchased the vehicle in 2009, four years after the recall was initiated.

[REDACTED] is correct in stating there are no time limitations on safety recalls. Chapter 301 of Title 49 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) requires a manufacturer of motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment that contain a defect relating to motor vehicle safety or fail to comply with a Federal motor vehicle safety standard to remedy the defect or noncompliance without charge. [REDACTED] did not provide his vehicle identification number (VIN); therefore, we cannot

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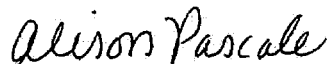
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determine whether recall 05V-388 has been completed on the vehicle. We recommend that [REDACTED] enter his VIN into our VIN Look-Up Tool, which searches open recalls through a direct interface with the manufacturer's database (<https://vinrcl.safercar.gov/vin/>). We have enclosed a brochure for [REDACTED] information explaining NHTSA's investigation and recall process, which is also on our web site at [www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallprocess](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallprocess).

Please note that a number of factors may cause a vehicle fire e.g., electrical problems, fluid leaks, debris contacting hot engine or exhaust components. When provided with all necessary details and particularly after an opportunity to examine the vehicle, an expert in automotive fire reconstruction can provide an educated opinion on determining the cause of a specific vehicle fire. We recommend that [REDACTED] continue to work with Ford if he has any unresolved issues concerning this matter.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions, please contact me or Mr. Frank S. Borris, Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement, at (202) 366-3217.

Sincerely yours,



Alison Pascale  
Director, Governmental Affairs,  
Policy and Strategic Planning

Enclosures

cc: Washington Office

## Search Results

### ID Number Search Results

<b>Recalls</b>  1 Result(s)	<b>Investigations</b>  N/A	<b>Complaints</b>  N/A
<b>Service Bulletins</b>  N/A		

**— RECALL Subject : SPEED CONTROL DEACTIVATION SWITCH , 1 INVESTIGATION(S)**

Report Receipt Date: SEP 07, 2005  
 NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V388000  
 Component(s): VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL  
 Potential Number of Units Affected: 4,500,000

**All Products Associated with this Recall ▲**

Vehicle Make	Model	Model Year(s)
FORD	BRONCO	1994-1996
FORD	EXPEDITION	1997-2002
FORD	F-150	1994-2002
FORD	F-250	1994-1999
LINCOLN	BLACKWOOD	2002
LINCOLN	NAVIGATOR	1998-2002

**Details ▲**

**43 Associated Documents ▼**

**Manufacturer:** FORD MOTOR COMPANY

**SUMMARY:**

ON CERTAIN PICKUP TRUCKS AND SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH SPEED CONTROL, THE SPEED CONTROL DEACTIVATION SWITCH MAY OVERHEAT, SMOKE, OR BURN.

**CONSEQUENCE:**

A FIRE AT THE SWITCH COULD OCCUR.

**REMEDY:**

BY LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 12, 2005, OWNERS WERE INSTRUCTED TO RETURN THEIR VEHICLES TO THEIR DEALERS TO HAVE THE SPEED CONTROL DEACTIVATION SWITCH DISCONNECTED. OWNERS WHO HAVE HAD THEIR SPEED CONTROL DEACTIVATED ARE BEING NOTIFIED THAT PARTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AND ADVISED TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO RECONNECT THE SPEED CONTROL BEGINNING IN FEBRUARY 2006. OWNERS WHO DID NOT HAVE THEIR SPEED CONTROL DEACTIVATED ARE BEING NOTIFIED TO HAVE THEIR SYSTEM REMEDIED BEGINNING IN FEBRUARY 2006. OWNERS ARE URGED TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE FREE DISCONNECT SERVICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE SIGNIFICANT RISK OF FIRE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT FORD AT 1-800-392-3873. (NOTE: ALSO SEE RECALLS 05V017 AND 06V288)

**NOTES:**

FORD RECALL NO. 05S28. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV.

**1 Associated Investigation(s) ▼**