



U.S. Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

DOT Auto Safety Hotline  
**Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire**  
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects  
1-888-DASH-2-DOT  
(1-888-327-4236)  
INTERNET:www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148

Date Received: 24-FEB-2016  
Repository:   
Reference No.: 10837946

**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name: [REDACTED]  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: HICKORY State: NC Zip Code: [REDACTED]  
Daytime Telephone Number: [REDACTED] E-mail Address: [REDACTED]  
Evening Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

The information you provide will be used to identify potential safety-related defects. We may share your information with the applicable vehicle manufacturer during an investigation or recall in accordance with the routine uses described in the agency's Privacy Act notice. See 49 FR 53971 (Sep. 3, 2004).

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side: 1G2WJ52K2VF [REDACTED]  
Make: PONTIAC Model: GRAND PRIX Model Year: 1997  
Date Purchased: 3/17/2004 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number: Jim Armstrong Buick Pontiac GMC (704) 322-9372 Engine: 3.8L Fuel Type: GAS  
Original Owner:  Dealer's City: Hickory State: NC Zip Code: 28602 No. of Cylinders: 6  
Transmission Type: Auto Antilock Brakes:  Powertrain: Multiple Failure: Incident Date(s): < 01-MAR-2003  
Cruise Control:

**FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION**

Vehicle Component Code: ENGINE (PWS) Failure Mileage: < 30000 Failure Speed: [REDACTED]

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE**

Tire Make: [REDACTED] Tire Model (Name or Number): [REDACTED] Tire Size (Example P215/65R15): [REDACTED]  
DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036): [REDACTED] Original Equipment:  Prior Repair:  Failure Location: [REDACTED]  
Tire Component Code: [REDACTED] Tire Failure Type: [REDACTED]

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE**

Make: [REDACTED] Date Manufactured: [REDACTED] Model No./Name: [REDACTED]  
Seat Type: [REDACTED] Installation System: [REDACTED]  
Child Seat Component Code: [REDACTED] Failed Part: [REDACTED]

**APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION**

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash:  Yes  No Fire:  Yes  No  
Number of Persons Injured: [REDACTED] Number of Deaths: [REDACTED] Reported to Police: N

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies). Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e. parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

TL\* THE CONTACT OWNS A 1997 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX. WHILE THE VEHICLE WAS PARKED, THE CONTACT NOTICED ENGINE OIL LEAKING FROM THE VEHICLE. THE VEHICLE WAS TAKEN TO A DEALER AND AN INDEPENDENT MECHANIC WHO BOTH DIAGNOSED THAT THE FRONT AND REAR VALVE COVER GASKETS AND INTAKE GASKET NEEDED TO BE REPLACED. THE VEHICLE WAS NOT REPAIRED. THE MANUFACTURER WAS NOTIFIED OF THE FAILURE. THE VIN WAS INCLUDED IN NHTSA CAMPAIGN NUMBER: 15V701000 (ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING). THE FAILURE MILEAGE WAS 30,000.

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Town & Country Tire

3213 Hwy 127 South  
Hickory, NC 28602

# Estimate

Date	Estimate #
12/23/2015	18

Name / Address
██████████ 1997 PONTIAC GRAN PRIX

Project

Description	Qty	Cost	Total
INTAKE GASKET SET	1	106.76	106.76T
VALVE COVER GASKETS	1	25.14	25.14T
OIL	5	3.25	16.25T
ANTIFREEZE	2	13.00	26.00T
OIL FILTERS	1	2.90	2.90T
SHOP SUPPLIES	1	10.00	10.00T
REPLACE LOWER INTAKE MANIFOLD GASKETS FOR LEAKING OIL ON TO EXHAUST MANIFOLDS.	1	400.00	400.00
Sales Tax		7.00%	13.09
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$600.14</b>

Customer Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Continuation: [REDACTED] – Reference No. 10837946

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crashes(es), and Injury(ies)

Summation: As seen in the estimate by the independent garage, which confirmed the Everett Chevrolet analysis, the mandated repair will not correct the problem of oil on the outside of the engine presenting a fire hazard, not to mention environmental impact. This issue is caused by **both** leaking valve covers **and** intake manifold end gaskets. These need to be replaced with the new improved gaskets to correct the issue created by the manufacturer's original design and safety flaws.

It is futile to perform a repair that will not correct the safety issues since those repairs will need to be repeated to correct the entire safety issue of oil leakage. An analogy would be bothering to only fix one tire if all are flat.