



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration

INFORMATION Redacted PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF  
INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C . 552(B)(6)

May 4, 2017

[REDACTED]  
Savona, NY [REDACTED]

NEF-109 nam  
Ref. No. 10968095

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence concerning the air bag(s) and occupant restraint controller in your model year 2010 Acura RDX. Your letter was forwarded to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation. We regret any inconvenience this delay may have caused you.

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.

NHTSA is aware of Honda's delay in producing the air bag inflators. The recall addresses a problem with air bag inflators produced by Takata that may rupture in a frontal crash and disperse metal fragments. Please note that it is not unusual for manufacturers to have an inadequate inventory of recall parts or a final remedy shortly after a recall is announced. Recall parts availability and recall remedies can be affected by numerous factors including, but not limited to, redesign, testing, manufacturing, and logistics.

Testing and analysis show that the problem with the Takata air bag inflators does not appear until the affected vehicle has been continuously exposed to high temperatures and high absolute humidity (HAH) for 6 years or more. Therefore, the oldest vehicles in the most dangerous areas will be repaired first. When sufficient parts are available to repair vehicles in the high risk areas such as the Gulf Coast States and certain U.S. Territories with HAH, parts will be allocated to lower risk areas.


We recommend using our vehicle identification number (VIN) lookup tool, you can access recall information provided by the manufacturer conducting the recall which may be not posted yet on NHTSA's site ([www.nhtsa.gov/recalls](http://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls)). We searched the VIN you provided

and understand your frustration that NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign No. 16V-081 (enclosed), the recall incomplete as of this date. Please contact your local dealer for updates on the recall parts availability in your area and schedule an appointment to have the recall completed. Unfortunately, the large volume of reports received by the Agency does not permit a return call for each report filed. We have enclosed a brochure explaining NHTSA's investigation and recall process, which is also on our website at [www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallprocess.cfm](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallprocess.cfm).

There are currently 46 million recalled Takata air bag inflators in 29 million vehicles in the United States. Under an Amended Consent Order issued to Takata in May 2016, automakers will be required to recall additional inflators over the next 3 years, ultimately affecting approximately 64 to 69 million inflators in 42 million total recalled vehicles. The Takata recall is the largest, most complex recall in NHTSA's history. Under the Consent Order, Takata has agreed to Federal oversight for the next 5 years, to phase out the use of the propellant believed to be related to the air bag inflator ruptures, and to pay record civil penalties up to \$200 million. For the most up-to-date information on the Takata recalls, your constituent should visit our website at [www.safercar.gov/rs/takata/index.html](http://www.safercar.gov/rs/takata/index.html).

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 vehicles safety or fail to comply with a Federal motor vehicle safety standard to remedy the defect or noncompliance without charge. However, our statute does not require manufacturers to reimburse owners for additional costs associated with a safety recall (e.g., lost wages while vehicle is being repaired, car rentals, repairs not performed by an authorized dealership, damage caused by the defect, etc.). Should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment in the future, we would appreciate it if you would complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at [www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq) or call the Auto Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosures

United States Department of Transportation



# Safety Issues & Recalls.

## Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)

Every vehicle has a unique VIN. Enter a VIN to learn if a specific vehicle needs to be repaired as part of a recall.

5J8TB1H29AA [REDACTED]

17/17 

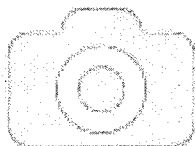
### Looking for more information on this vehicle?

NHTSA offers more safety information based on a vehicle's year, make and model. Check safety ratings, recommended technologies and other safety issues.

[Learn More →](#)

2010

**Acura RDX**



**IMAGE NOT AVAILABLE**

**VIN: 5J8TB1H29AA [REDACTED]**

Recall data refreshed on May 03,2017

## 1 Recalls

associated with this VIN

**Jan 29,2016**

**Manufacturer Recall Number** JY2

**NHTSA Recall Number** 16V-061

**Recall Status** Recall Incomplete

### **Summary**

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC. (ACURA) IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2013-2014 ILX, 2013-2014 ILX HYBRID, 2007-2014 RDX, 2005-2012 RL, 2009-2014 TL, AND 2010-2013 ZDX VEHICLES. THE DRIVER FRONTAL AIRBAG INFLATOR IN YOUR VEHICLE MAY RUPTURE WHEN DEPLOYING DURING A CRASH. THE POTENTIAL FOR SUCH RUPTURES MAY OCCUR IN SOME OF THE SUBJECT AIRBAG INFLATORS AFTER SEVERAL YEARS OF EXPOSURE TO PERSISTENT CONDITIONS OF HIGH ABSOLUTE HUMIDITY.

### **Safety Risk**

THE DRIVER'S FRONT AIRBAG INFLATOR, WHEN DEPLOYING IN A CRASH, COULD RUPTURE AND BREAK APART, SENDING METAL FRAGMENTS THROUGH THE AIRBAG CUSHION MATERIAL TOWARDS YOU AND YOUR PASSENGERS, POSSIBLY CAUSING SERIOUS INJURY OR FATALITY. IT IS IMPERATIVE YOU SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH AN AUTHORIZED ACURA DEALER NOW TO AVOID THIS CONDITION IN THE FUTURE.

### **Remedy**

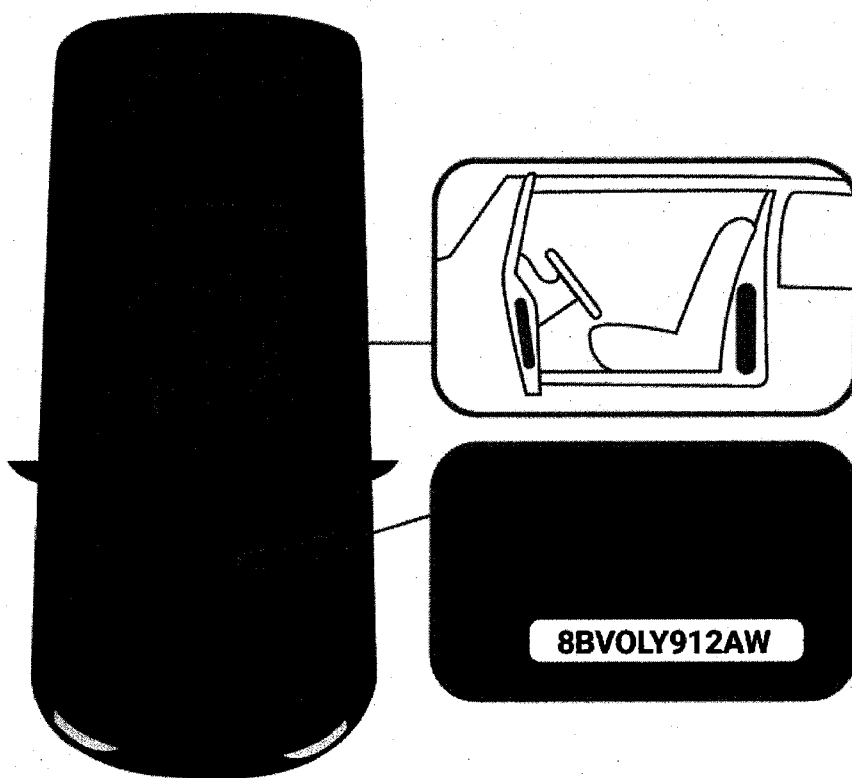
PLEASE CALL ANY AUTHORIZED ACURA DEALER AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO HAVE YOUR VEHICLE REPAIRED. YOUR DEALER WILL REPLACE THE DRIVER'S FRONT AIRBAG INFLATOR WITH AN INFLATOR OF A DIFFERENT DESIGN, FREE OF CHARGE. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING AN ACURA DEALER, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.RECALLS.ACURA.COM](http://WWW.RECALLS.ACURA.COM) OR CONTACT ACURA CLIENT RELATIONS AT 1-888-234-2138. ACURA'S CAMPAIGN NUMBER FOR THIS RECALL IS JY2.

### **Manufacturer's Notes**

**If the manufacturer has failed or is unable to remedy this safety recall for your vehicle in a timely manner,**  
please contact the NHTSA Vehicle Safety Hotline at: 1-888-327-4236 or  
TTY: 1-800-424-9153 or file an online complaint with NHTSA.

### **Where's my VIN?**

Look on the lower left of your car's windshield for your 17-character Vehicle Identification Number. Your VIN is also located on your car's registration card, and it may be shown on your insurance card.



### **What this VIN search tool covers**

- Vehicle safety recalls that are incomplete
- Vehicle safety recalls conducted over the past 15 calendar years
- Vehicle safety recalls conducted by major light auto automakers, including motorcycle manufacturers.

### **What this VIN search tool does not cover**

- Completed safety recall information
- Manufacturer customer service or other nonsafety recall campaign
- International vehicles
- Very recently announced safety recalls for which not all VINs have been identified

- Safety recalls that are more than 15 years old (except where a manufacturer offers more coverage)
- Safety recalls conducted by small vehicle manufacturers, including some ultra-luxury brands and specialty applications

## Stay informed.

Know if there is a safety problem with your vehicles, tires or car seat, and how to get it fixed.

**SIGN UP**

## From your complaints to recall campaigns

NHTSA issues vehicle safety standards and requires manufacturers to recall vehicles and equipments that have safety-related defects. Learn about NHTSA's recall process.

## 01 Complaints

### **Reporting your problem is the important first step.**

Your complaint will be added to a public NHTSA database after personally identifying information is removed.

If the agency receives similar reports from a number of people about the same product, this could indicate that a safety-related defect may exist that would warrant the opening of an investigation.

**Example of Complaints →**

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## **Have a safety problem?**

Report a problem with your vehicle, tires, car seats or other equipment. We review every problem as we work to keep our roads safe.

**Report a safety problem →**

## **02 Investigations**

### **NHTSA conducts an investigation from reported complaints.**

#### **A. SCREENING**

NHTSA reviews filed complaints from vehicle owners and other information related to alleged defects to decide whether to open an investigation.

#### **B. ANALYSIS**

NHTSA conducts an analysis of any petitions calling for defect investigations. If the petition is denied, the reasons for the denial are published in the Federal Register.

#### **C. INVESTIGATION**

NHTSA opens an investigation of alleged safety defects. It is closed when they notify the manufacturer of recall recommendations or they don't identify a safety-related defect.

#### **D. RECALL MANAGEMENT**

NHTSA reviews filed complaints from vehicle owners and other information related to alleged defects to decide whether to open an investigation.

**View monthly investigation reports →**

## 03 Recalls

### **Initiated safety recalls require a manufacturer's action to announce and remedy the defects.**

A recall is issued when a manufacturer or NHTSA determines that a vehicle, equipment, car seat, or tire creates an unreasonable safety risk or fails to meet minimum safety standards. Most decisions to conduct a recall and remedy a safety defect are made voluntarily by manufacturers prior to any involvement by NHTSA.

Manufacturers are required to fix the problem by repairing it, replacing it, offering a refund, or in rare cases repurchasing the vehicle.

Using our VIN lookup tool, you can access recall information provided by the manufacturer conducting the recall which may be not posted yet on NHTSA's site.

**Go to search by VIN →**

## Recalls Spotlight

The latest updates on recalls

Recalls Spotlight monitors high-profile recalls and offers consumers resources to find and address vehicle recalls.

**Recall Spotlight →**

## Roles in the Recall Process



### **Manufacturer**

Manufacturers will notify registered owners by first class mail within 60 days of notifying NHTSA of a recall decision. Manufacturers should offer a proper remedy to the owner.



### **NHTSA**

NHTSA will monitor each safety recall to make sure owners receive safe, free, and effective remedies from manufacturers according to the Safety Act and Federal regulations.



### **You (owner)**

You'll be notified via mail from the manufacturer. When you receive a notification, follow any interim safety guidance provided by the manufacturer and contact your local dealership to fix the recalled part for free.

### **TIPS FOR YOUR SAFETY**

Register your vehicle, tires, car seats & equipment and check recalls twice a year.

## Safecar TV: Driven by Safety

For more than 50 years, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has been working to keep people safe on the road. Learn more about what we do and how we enable everyone to live safer.

[Go to YouTube Channel →](#)

## News

[See All](#)

### PRESS RELEASES

**U.S. Department of Transportation expands and accelerates Takata air bag inflator recall to protect American drivers and passengers**

[Read More →](#)

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### PRESS RELEASES

**Effective Today: New Federal law for recalled rental cars protects consumers from vehicle safety defects**

[Read More →](#)

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### PRESS RELEASES

## **NHTSA: New test data on particular subset of Takata air bag inflators shows substantially higher risk**

**Read More →**

## **Have a safety problem?**

Report a problem with your vehicle, tires, car seats or other equipment. We review every problem as we work to keep our roads safe.

**REPORT A PROBLEM**

**NHTSA Information ▾**

**Information For ▾**

**NHTSA Sites ▾**

**Website Information ▾**

### **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

1-888-327-4236

1-800- 424-9153 (TTY)



[Submit Feedback >](#)