



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

Repository

26-FEB-2018  
**APR 19 2018**

Reference No.  
11075008

**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name [REDACTED]  
Address [REDACTED]  
City LAKE TAPPI State WA 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: **JT6HF1OU3X0** [REDACTED]  
Make LEXUS Model RX300 Model Year 1999  
Date Purchased **4-13-13** Dealer's Name and Telephone Number **Lexus of Bellevue 425-533-2147** Engine: No: Cylinders Fuel Type:  
Original Owner  Dealer's City **Bellevue** State **WA** Zip Code  
Transmission Type  Antilock Brakes  Cruise Control Powertrain Multiple Failure: Incident Date(s) **16-JAN-2018**

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

Vehicle Component Codes: 060000 ENGINE (PWS), 180000 VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL, 180000 VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL Failure Mileage **179,825** Failure Speed 30

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

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

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

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

**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 1 Number of Deaths 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 1999 LEXUS RX300. WHILE DRIVING APPROXIMATELY 30 MPH, THE RPMS SUDDENLY INCREASED AND THE VEHICLE ACCELERATED TO SPEEDS ABOVE 85 MPH. DURING THE INCIDENT, FLAMES WERE SEEN COMING FROM THE EXHAUST. THE CONTACT SUSTAINED A NECK INJURY, WHICH REQUIRED MEDICAL ATTENTION. A POLICE REPORT WAS NOT FILED. THE VEHICLE WAS TAKEN TO AN INDEPENDENT MECHANIC WHO INDICATED THAT THE FLAMES CREATED A HOLE IN THE CATALYTIC CONVERTER AND THE OXYGEN SENSOR WAS FAULTY. THE VEHICLE WAS NOT REPAIRED. THE MANUFACTURER AND LOCAL DEALER (O'BRIEN LEXUS IN BELLEVUE WA) WERE NOTIFIED. THE VIN WAS NOT AVAILABLE. THE FAILURE MILEAGE WAS 170,000.

*Lexus set up a dealer claim & factory 179,825  
I will get black box info & response from Lexus legal dept  
in 4-6 weeks.*

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.

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

On 1/16/18 my Lexus had transmission RPM of 5-6,000 on the freeway. This issue has happened since purchase from dealership with a full warranty. I spent hour at dealer with banners. Lexus unable to diagnose tranny issue. Went for check engine light. Came on day of fire! Vehicle completely died hours before. Driving 35 mph + Lexus engine chokes & lurches forward called friend say may need ride car just gave my whiplash. It did it two more times, 3rd I was alerted by horns & flashing lights. Looked in rear view - fire balls & flames shooting out back end. Was shocked to find other Lexus fires same model. Dealer wanted nothing to do with it refused to. **ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY** will respond & give me the info within 4 weeks. inspect. Factory pulled back box 3-20 & legal dept.

US Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20077-9382  
Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use \$300

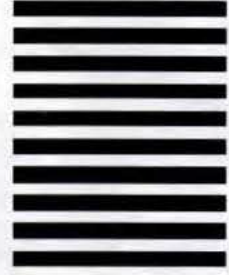


**NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES**

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**  
FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 1888 WASHINGTON, DC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

**US Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Office of Defects Investigation, NEF-100  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE,  
Washington, D.C. 20077-9382**



**Think your vehicle has a safety defect?**



**If so:  
Use the enclosed form to file a report.**

**or visit:  
www.safercar.gov**

**or call:  
Vehicle Safety Hotline  
888-327-4236**



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