

[REDACTED]
Bridgewater, CT
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

April 23, 2021

Kia Motors USA Corporate Office Headquarters
11 Peters Canyon Rd.
Irvine, CA 92606

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

Re: Front Suspension Coil Spring failure

Dear Sirs,

I own a low-mileage (52500 miles) 2015 Kia Cadenza, VIN: KNALN4D74F [REDACTED] that underwent a front suspension coil spring failure on the left front driver's side of the vehicle.

I had just exited my driveway on April 13, 2021, onto a state highway and suddenly heard a loud grinding noise. My speed was less than 15 mph before braking. The ABS and ESC warning lights immediately illuminated and I could smell burnt rubber.

I investigated my left front tire and noticed that a groove was scraped into the sidewall of the tire (on the backside of the wheel). The coil spring had broken in two places and was tearing into the backside of my tire. Additionally, the ABS sensor wire harness had been ripped in three places, and had I not immediately stopped the brake line would have also been punctured.

If I had been driving at highway speed unaware of the danger, it would have cut my tire in half and ruptured the brake line causing me to lose control of my vehicle and potentially causing a catastrophic accident. I bring this to your attention as you might wish to investigate to prevent an occurrence on other vehicles produced with the same lot of coil springs.

I have attached a photo of the broken spring and ABS sensor wire before a replacement and other photos of the removed fractured spring and strut assembly. I have retained them should you wish to perform stress analysis, chemical analysis, microstructure observation, and hardness measurements. It is my opinion that the steel had a quenched and tempered manufacturing defect that caused this untimely fracture.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

Cc:

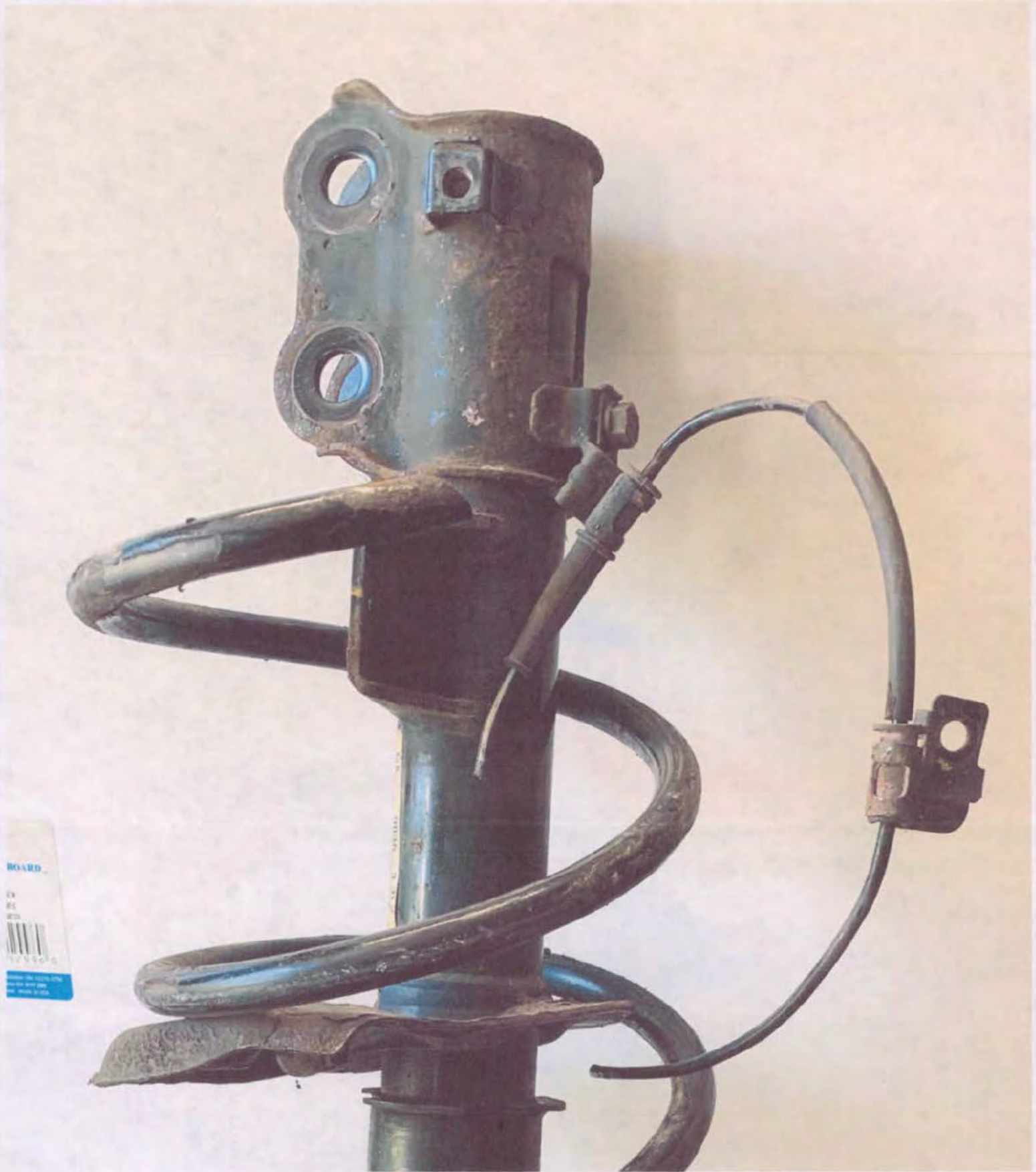
Hyundai America Technical Center, Inc.
6800 Geddes Road
Superior Township, MI 48198

Department of Transportation, NHTSA.
Office of Defects Investigation/CRD, NVS-216.
1200 New Jersey Ave SE.
Washington, DC 20590

Consumer Reports
101 Truman Avenue,
Yonkers, New York, U.S. 10703







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