
Princeton, NJ 

January 24, 2023

VSH
NHTSA
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
West Building
Washington, DC 20590

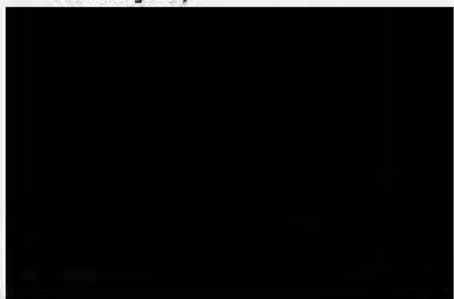
Attention: Vehicle Safety Hotline
Reference: ODI 11-50-07-87

I am attaching the letter sent by email and returned as undeliverable by NHTSA. I would appreciate confirmation that my case is being reviewed. The totaled car is in my driveway and the EDR data may be compromised when exposed to the weather- snow and rain.

I would appreciate your letting me know when the EDR will be retrieved, as it has been over two weeks since filing the claim. Also, I would like to know what company would be able to do this retrieval, if the NHTSA is unable to do so in a timely matter.

Please let me know.

Thank you,





ODI 11-50-07-87

To: vsh@dot.gov

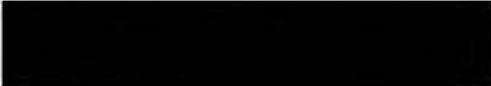
Thu, Jan 19, 2023 at 5:26 PM

I filed the above-referenced complaint ten days ago concerning sudden unintended acceleration of my vehicle. To date, I have not even received confirmation that anyone has received my complaint or is looking into it. The complaint is serious. Someone could have been killed.

I am attaching a follow-up email. I have tried sending this letter two previous times to the webmaster email at NHTSA, without receiving a response.

Please call [REDACTED] or email me that this attachment has been received and included in the file.

Thank you.



Email to: VHTSA.webmaster@dof.gov
Reference: ODI 11-50-07-87

Complaint: Sudden Unintended Acceleration – Date: January 6, 2023
Filed by [REDACTED]
Mercedes Benz GLK250, Year 2014 Vin:WDCGG0EB6E [REDACTED]
License [REDACTED] (Massachusetts)
West Windsor, N.J. Accident Report # [REDACTED]

For the record, below is a recap (of what I told ODI by telephone on January 9, 2023) concerning the above-referenced complaint, in my own words, of what happened on January 6:

I was driving the above-referenced vehicle with my daughter in the parking lot in Market Fair Shopping Center, West Windsor, New Jersey, on Friday afternoon, January 6, 2023. The vehicle suddenly accelerated uncontrollably and ran into the back of a parked Cadillac Escalade. My daughter called the police. Police officer Brown asked me to back out my car away from the impacted parked SUV. He asked me what happened and I said the car just took off accelerating uncontrollably. It did not stop. I told the officer there were two witnesses. He spoke with one of the witnesses. My daughter went up to Officer Brown in the car and told him she was dizzy. He asked, "So, you want me to call an ambulance?" She said no. Officer Brown then gave me a card with a case number and an email address to obtain a copy of the report. He said I would be mailed the ticket in a few days.

The following is an update since filing the complaint on January 9, 2023:

- Your office said I should call Mercedes Benz to obtain the EDR for my car. The Mercedes Customer Assistance Center told me that, to obtain the EDR, I would have to ask the officer who filed the report to request a subpoena from the Judge.
- I called the West Windsor Police Department (West Windsor, NJ) and both Officer Brown and Sergeant Loretucci refused to request a subpoena for access to the EDR, saying the judges are too busy to issue subpoenas for every accident. Also, Officer Brown said he has "never seen an accident involving a Mercedes."
- I have also now received a traffic ticket from the West Windsor Police Department, #000039. (court I.D. [REDACTED], [REDACTED])
- Allstate Insurance Co. also called me to say they have done an appraisal of my car, as "it was totaled." The vehicle my car hit– a Cadillac Escalade (Vin: 1GYS4KKL4M [REDACTED], NJ [REDACTED]) – "was also totaled." I told the police and AllState the air bags never went off, and asked if a mechanical inspection would be done on my car, and was told, "no."

- Note that nothing was mentioned on the police report about the witnesses who saw my car quickly accelerating. Officer Brown told me "the witnesses just said the car was accelerating."
- Also, the extensive damage to the front end of the other vehicle is not documented. The collision and damage were severe enough to push the large, Cadillac Escalade forward into the metal post of the Handicap parking sign and crushing the front end of this vehicle in addition to the back end damage.
- In addition, Officer Brown took no pictures of the totaled vehicles at the accident scene.
- The report did not mention that the air bags did not deploy.
- The report says "based on the driver's statement and physical evidence at the scene, D1 [my vehicle] was found to be sole fault of this collision."
- The report also states that I was issued a ticket for Careless Driving.

I need to know whether ODI has or will be remotely accessing the data from my car's EDR. (AllState has refused to do a mechanical inspection and has towed the damaged car to my driveway, so I would like to have this matter resolved as soon as possible. Also, please let me know if you need photos taken of the accident damage.

In addition, I would appreciate receiving, either by email or telephone call, confirmation that your office has received this update.

Thank you very much,

