



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



February 22, 2023

NEF-109 tgd
Ref. No. 11503173

[REDACTED]
Brighton, MI [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for the letter about your model year (MY) 1998 Honda Civic vehicle. Your letter was forwarded to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation. I am pleased to respond.

NHTSA is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. Among other activities, we also monitor the completion rate and adequacy of manufacturers' recall campaigns.

We appreciate the report you provided. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. We are aware of the delay for NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign No. 20V-026. The recall addresses a problem with Takata front passenger-side air bag inflators in certain MY 1996 through MY 2000 Honda Civic vehicles. In the event of a crash necessitating deployment of the front air bags, these inflators may rupture due to propellant degradation occurring after long-term exposure to high absolute humidity and temperature cycling.

The recall of defective Takata inflators has grown over the past few years to include 19 separate vehicle manufacturers. Approximately 67 million air bags are under recall in tens of millions of vehicles in the United States, making it the largest, most complex recall in NHTSA's history. The most significant challenge presented by this recall has been the availability of remedy parts, which has been affected by numerous factors including, but not limited to, the need to obtain redesigned parts from alternative inflator suppliers, testing to ensure the safety of remedy parts, manufacturing and capacity constraints given the enormous global demand, and logistics in getting the parts out to the distribution networks and into the dealer's hands.

The agency issued an amended Coordinated Remedy Order in December 2016, to order affected vehicle manufacturers to accelerate recall repairs and prioritize vehicles, to reduce the risk of rupture and protect the American public. The Order attaches a prioritization schedule for all vehicles currently affected by the recall, or that will become affected by future expansions, based upon known risk factors such as the age of the inflator, the geographic location of the inflator, and the location of the inflator in the vehicle.

Parts are now available; we recommend that you contact your dealer to schedule the recall remedy immediately. If you are unable to schedule an appointment, you should notify the agency so that we may investigate whether the vehicle manufacturer has violated the Coordinated Remedy Order. You can file a complaint on our website at <https://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/VehicleComplaint/> or via NHTSA's Vehicle Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236. For the most up-to-date information on the Takata recalls, we also encourage you to visit our website at www.nhtsa.gov/recall-spotlight/takata-air-bags.

Furthermore, while researching your problem we found that NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign No. 99E-015 is open on your vehicle (report enclosed). The recall addresses a problem with the Genuine Honda accessory driver-side floor mats used in 1996-1998 Honda civic vehicles. Due to the shape of the floor on these vehicles, a mispositioned floor mat could interfere with the accelerator pedal. The floor mat could prevent the accelerator pedal from returning to the idle position. We encourage you to contact Honda and your local dealer to schedule a recall remedy as soon as possible.

If you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment in the future, please file a complaint on our website or hotline listed above. Also, you may review owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc., on our website.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Reid".

Randy Reid, Chief
Consumer Engagement Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

Enclosure

1998

Honda Civic Coupe**VIN: 1HGEJ8146W** XXXXXXXXXX

Recall data refreshed on Feb 19,2023

2 Unrepaired Recalls

associated with this VIN

Jan 17,2020**Manufacturer Recall Number** D8J**NHTSA Recall Number** 20V-026**Recall Status** Recall Incomplete**Summary**

American Honda Motor Co., Inc. (Honda) is recalling certain model year 1998-2000 Accord Coupe and Accord Sedan, 1996-2000 Civic Coupe, 1998-2000 Civic Sedan, 1997-2000 CR-V, 1997-1998 EV Plus, 1998-2000 Odyssey, and 1998-1999 Isuzu Oasis vehicles. These vehicles were equipped with Non-Azide Driver Airbag Inflators (NADI) and do not contain phase stabilized ammonium nitrate (PSAN) propellant. Due to a manufacturing issue, the NADI inflators may absorb moisture, causing the inflators to rupture or the airbag cushion to underinflate.

Safety Risk

In the event of a crash necessitating airbag deployment, an inflator rupture may result in metal fragments striking the driver or other occupants. An underinflated airbag cushion may not properly protect the occupant. These scenarios increase the risk of serious injury or death.

Remedy

Please call any authorized Honda dealer and make an appointment to have the driver frontal airbag inflator inspected and, if necessary, replaced with an inflator of a different design for free. For additional questions or to get help locating a dealer, owners may contact American Honda's Customer Support & Campaign Center at 1-888-234-2138.

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.

May 20,1999**Manufacturer Recall Number** K60**NHTSA Recall Number** 99E-015**Recall Status** Recall Incomplete**Summary**

ACCESSORY DRIVER-SIDE FLOOR MATS USED IN 1996-1998 HONDA CIVIC VEHICLES. DUE TO THE SHAPE OF THE FLOOR ON THESE VEHICLES, A MISPOSITIONED FLOOR MAT COULD INTERFERE WITH THE ACCELERATOR PEDAL.

Safety Risk

THE FLOOR MAT COULD PREVENT THE ACCELERATOR PEDAL FROM RETURNING TO THE IDLE POSITION.

Remedy

IF A CUSTOMER HAS A GENUINE HONDA DRIVER-SIDE FLOOR MAT, DEALERS WILL INSTALL A POSITIVE FLOOR MAT RETENTION SYSTEM CONSISTING OF A GROMMET IN THE FLOOR MAT AND A PIN BRACKET IN THE CAR.

if the manufacturer has failed or is unable to remedy this safety recall for your vehicle in a timely manner,

[Research Requests \(1\)](#)

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 will show

- An unrepaired vehicle affected by a vehicle safety recall in the past 15 calendar years
- Vehicle safety recalls from [major light auto automakers, motorcycle manufacturers and some medium/heavy truck manufacturers](#)

What this VIN search tool will not show

- A vehicle with a repaired safety recall. If your vehicle has no unrepaired recalls, you will see the message: "0 Unrepaired recalls associated with this VIN"
- Manufacturer customer service or other nonsafety recall campaign
- International vehicles
- There may be a delay with very recently announced safety recalls for which not all VINs have been identified. VINs are added continuously so please check regularly.
- 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