



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



October 17, 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Maugansville, MD [REDACTED]

NEF-109 jm
Ref. No. 11576786

Dear [REDACTED]:

Thank you for the letter about your model year (MY) 2012 Kia Forte vehicle. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) forwarded your letter to the Office of Defects Investigation. NHTSA's mission is to save lives, prevent injuries, and reduce economic costs due to road traffic crashes, through education, research, safety standards, and enforcement activity. I am pleased to respond.

We appreciate the report you provided. Among other enforcement activities, NHTSA continuously monitors available information to identify potential safety defect trends. As such, reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. We examined our database and other relevant information for evidence of any safety defect trends related to steering column failures in the MY 2012 Kia Forte vehicles. At this time, NHTSA has not identified sufficient evidence to open a safety defect investigation or to initiate a recall. We entered your information into NHTSA's database, where it will be used with other reports and relevant information to identify any safety defect trends. You can learn more about NHTSA's investigation and recall process on our website at https://www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.dot.gov/files/documents/mvdefectsandrecalls_808795.pdf.

We encourage you to continue to work with Kia and your local dealer to explore the potential for an amicable resolution to your problem. You may also ask your dealership for a meeting with a Kia district manager regarding your problem. You may also consider contacting your local Consumer Protection Agency or the Maryland Attorney General's Office regarding your problem and rights under state law. In addition, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) regulates and investigates warranty and dealership problems, reimbursement matters, and fair trade practices. Therefore, if you believe this issue potentially relates to such a practice, you may contact the FTC to discuss the matter. There are two ways to contact the FTC: by toll free telephone at 877-FTC-HELP; and by using the internet complaint form at ftc.gov/complaint.

If you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment in the future, please complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at www.nhtsa.gov or call the Vehicle Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236. Also, owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc. can be reviewed on our website.

Sincerely,



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