



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

## ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 04-030  
 Prompted By: Consumer Complaints  
 Date Opened: 11/04/2004 Date Closed: 11/07/2005  
 Principal Investigator: Lee Strickland  
 Subject: Power Door Lock Failure

Manufacturer: Kia Motors America, Inc.  
 Products: 2001 Kia Optima  
 Population: 24,754

Problem Description: Electric powered door locks may fail to properly disengage, preventing normal egress from the vehicle.

### FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	14	340	354
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	6571	6571

\*Description of Other: Warranty claims filed by dealers on driver side latch assembly and door lock/actuator

Action: This Engineering Analysis has been closed.

Engineer: Leamon H. Strickland *LAS*  
 Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper  
 Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 11/07/2005  
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#### Summary:

Investigation failed to disclose a malfunction with a clear and consistent pattern of compromise to motor vehicle safety. Failure of the subject door locks may impede normal egress of a vehicle occupant but does not entrap the occupant. Complaints and warranty data document the deficiencies of the door lock system, but these malfunctions have not been accompanied by a history of demonstrated safety related implications.

Details regarding this investigation are contained in the Engineering Analysis Closing Report.

Further expenditure of agency resources does not appear to be warranted. The closing of this investigation does not constitute a finding that a safety related defect does not exist. The agency may take further action if warranted by the circumstances.

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11-14-05*