



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 06-035
Date Opened: 09/05/2006
Principal Investigator: Sonny Murianka
Subject: Missing Elect. Panel Mounting Hardware

Manufacturer: Freightliner LLC
Products: Thomas Built Minotour Buses 2006
Population: 500 (ESTIMATED)

Problem Description: Electrical Panel Mounting screws are missing.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3	0	3
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	12	0	12

*Description Of Other: Dealer stated that he has repaired 12 others.

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Engineer: Sonny Murianka
Div. Chief: Richard Boyd *RB*
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: During a fleet visit, ODI observed an electrical panel that was dislocated from its mounting brackets. Further examination revealed that the two mounting screws were missing.

An inspection of five additional buses revealed two more buses with the same failure.

The panel consists of a series of electrical breakers and two heavy gauge electrical cables which supply power to the panel and other electrical circuits. upon separation, the panel could short out and possibly cause a vehicle fire if it were to come in contact with the surrounding metal enclosure.

GV
9.5.06