

**JAMES A. MARCHEWKA**

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February 1, 2006

Mr. M.R. Porterfield  
Special Investigations  
Daimler Chrysler  
PO Box 21-8004  
Auburn Hills, MI 48321

**RECEIVED**

FEB 07 REC'D

**SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS**

Reference No. 14068071

VIN: 1B7HC16Y3YS [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Porterfield:

I am in receipt of your correspondence dated September 27, 2005 regarding my client, [REDACTED]. It appears to me, from my inspection, that the hood latch does fall under the recall notice issued regarding the Dodge Ram 1500 pickups. Will you please correspond with me directly so that we can work this matter out.

Very truly yours,

  
James A. Marchewka, Esquire

JAM/km

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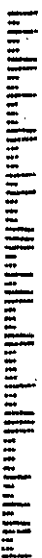
PITTSBURGH PA 152

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Mr. M.R. Porterfield  
Special Investigations  
Daimler Chrysler  
PO Box 21-8004  
Auburn Hills, MI 48321

48321+8004



February 9, 2006

[REDACTED]  
Canonsburg, PA [REDACTED]

Re: Your Client: [REDACTED]  
V.I.N.: 1B7HC16Y3YS5 [REDACTED]  
Our File No.: 14068071

Dear [REDACTED]

This letter is in response to your letter dated February 1, 2006, regarding the above referenced client.

I have had the opportunity to review [REDACTED]'s file again in its entirety, and I must inform you that I have gleaned no additional information that would cause us to alter our previous decision.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this matter with you.

Sincerely,

M. R. Porterfield  
Special Investigations  
(248) 944-7134

MRP/ss

September 27, 2005

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Canonsburg, PA [REDACTED]

Reference No.: 14068071

VIN: 1B7HC16Y3YS [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

This letter is in response to your contact to DaimlerChrysler Motors Corporation, regarding your 2000 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup.

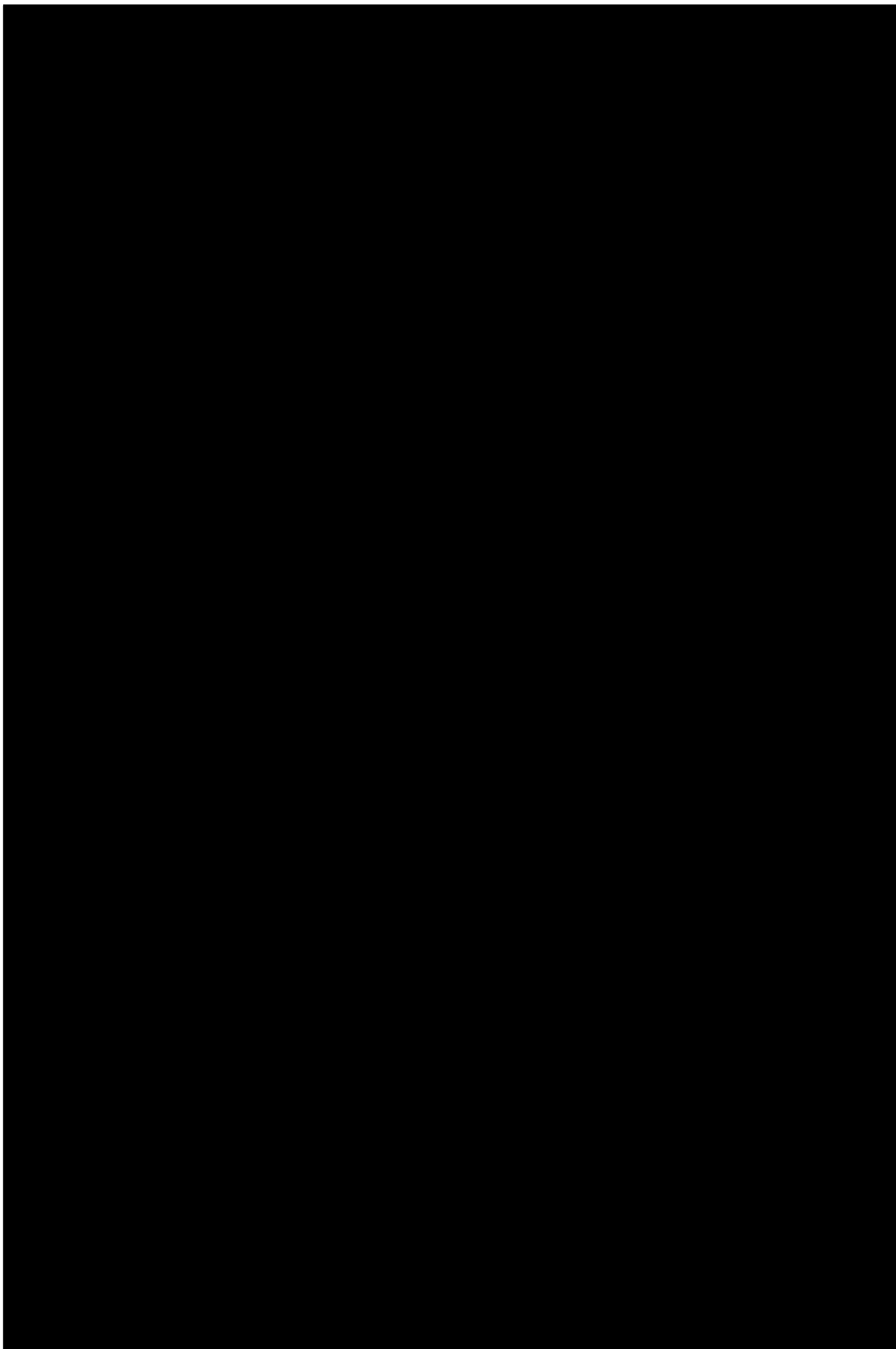
Naturally, we were sorry to learn of the incident described to us during the initial contact. However, we have had the opportunity to review the inspection report and I must inform you that I am not led to believe that a manufacturing responsibility exists in this matter. Our inspection revealed that all the primary and secondary components of the hood latch were heavily corroded. Due to lack of lubrication and the fact that this vehicle was not involved in any recalls, we must respectfully decline any responsibility associated with this incident.

Based on this information, we can only suggest that you refer this matter to your insurance carrier. Should they feel a manufacturing responsibility exists, they have full subrogation rights under the terms of your policy.

Sincerely,

M. R. Porterfield  
Special Investigations  
(248) 944-7134

MRP/kat



REPAIR ORDERS

Phone 412-292-4546

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**PART B - EXTERIOR/INTERIOR VEHICLE DAMAGE**

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**REQUIRED PHOTOGRAPHS:**

- ☒ WINDSHIELD
- ☒ ALL AREAS OF DAMAGE  
MARKINGS ON INTERIOR  
AND EXTERIOR
- ☒ CLOSE UPS OF STAINS,  
SKIN, HAIR, CLOTH
- ☒ EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR  
DAMAGE INCLUDING  
UNDERCARRIAGE

**INFORMATION:**

- ☒ DESCRIBE ANY INJURIES TO  
DRIVER AND/OR OTHER  
OCCUPANTS
  - ☒ SEE SEAT BELT/SEATS  
SECTION IF APPLICABLE
- 

**Following Damage photographed: LR Hood edge metal pinched @ 3" inboard 3" L X 1 1/2" W X 1/2" D LR Hood dent 10" L X 6" W X 3/4" D RR Hood edge metal pinched @ 3" inbrd 2" L X 1 1/2" W X 3/4" D; RR Hood Dent 12" L X 8" W X 3/4" D Front center area of hood panel has multiple dents; waved and buckled sheet metal. Windshield is completely fractured and pushed slightly inward/rearward. Forward area Roof Panel 25" inboard from LH side indicates two dents above W/S; 6" L X 3" W X 1/2" D 2" L X 1 1/2" W X 1/4" D Chrome Grille is fractured several places at left side in several places Additional unusual damage to: @RH Rear edge of door 1 1/2" L X 2 1/2" W X 3/4" D RR cab lower area 8" L X 10" W X 1 1/2" D RH side lower front area of side quarter panel 15" L X 10" W X 1/2" D No injuries occurred.**

Next

PART C - AIRBAG(S)

REQUIRED PHOTOGRAPHS

- ☒ STEERING WHEEL
- ☒ AIRBAG(S)
- ☒ KNEE BLOCKERS
- ☐ ALL POSSIBLE LOCATIONS OF CONTACT

AECM INFORMATION

- SOFTWARE VERSION:

- SERIAL NUMBER :

- PART NUMBER :

- DOES AIRBAG WARNING LIGHT CYCLE ON?
  - ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
- ARE WARNING LABELS PRESENT (PHOTO)
  - ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
- RECORD LABEL PART NUMBER

☒ COMPLETE PART D

- PHOTOGRAPH REQUIRED FOR DRB SCREENS & RECORD FAULTS
- WERE THERE DRB READINGS TAKEN?

☐ YES ☒ NO IF NO, EXPLAIN

No Airbag Concern Reported

- RECORD ACTIVE DTC'S EXACTLY AS APPEAR :	MIN	COUNT
- RECORD STORED DTC'S (MINUTES/COUNTS) :	MIN	COUNT

- WAS AIRBAG DEPLOYED?

- DRIVER ☐ YES ☒ NO  
IF NO, EXPLAIN **Not an impact incident**
- PASSENGER ☐ YES ☒ NO  
IF NO, EXPLAIN **Not an impact incident**
- SIDE AIRBAG ☐ YES ☐ NO ☒ N/A  
IF NO, EXPLAIN
- WHICH SIDE DEPLOYED?
  - ☐ LEFT ☐ RIGHT ☒ N/A ☐ BOTH
- TYPE OF SIDE AIRBAG
  - ☐ SEAT ☐ CURTAIN ☒ N/A
- TYPE OF STEERING WHEEL
  - ☒ TILT ☐ STANDARD
- ANY DAMAGE TO STEERING WHEEL
  - ☐ YES ☒ NO
- IF YES, EXPLAIN

DO NOT ERASE DRB READINGS

- IS VEHICLE EQUIPPED WITH PASSENGER AIRBAG DEFAULT SWITCH?
  - ☐ YES ☒ NO
- IF YES,
  - ☐ NOTE POSITION OF PASSENGER A/B SWITCH
  - ☐ ON ☐ OFF ☒ N/A
- EVIDENCE OF TAMPERING OR DISASSEMBLY?
  - ☐ YES ☒ NO ☐ N/A
- IF YES, EXPLAIN
- CHECK ENTIRE UNDERBODY FOR HIDDEN DAMAGE INCLUDING FRONT AND REAR SUSPENSION COMPONENTS
- UNDERBODY DAMAGED?
  - ☐ YES ☒ NO
- IF YES, EXPLAIN

PHOTOGRAPH REQUIRED

PART D - SEATS/SHOULDER BELTS

REQUIRED PHOTOGRAPHS:

- ☒ OVERALL SEAT BELTS I/B & O/B
- ☒ CLOSE UP OF ANY IRREGULARITIES
- ☒ LATCHPLATE WEAR
- ☒ CLOSE UP D-RING TO SHOW LOADING
- ☒ OVERALL OF SEAT
- ☐ CLOSE UP OF DAMAGE
- ☐ RECORD DTC'S:

INFORMATION:

- LOCATE SEAT BELT LABELS AND RECORD ALL INFORMATION (SOME LABELS ARE SEWN TO WEBBING, OTHER LABELS ARE ON THE RETRACTOR FRAME: INBOARD SEAT BELT LABELS ARE NEAR THE FLOOR):  
**N/A**
- RECORD ALL INFORMATION STAMPED ON LATCHPLATE  
**LH A031 RH A799**
- PRETENSION DEPLOYED?
  - ☐ YES ☒ NO ☐ UNKNOWN
- EXISTING LOCATION OF RECLINER - DESCRIBE THE LOCATION AND PICTURE OF SEAT BACK WITH B PILLOR AS REFERENCE AND INCLINOMETER READING  
**6" 60 Degrees**
- EXISTING LOCATION OF HEAD RESTRAINT (MEASURE GAP UNDER HEAD RESTRAINT):

IF ALLOWED. FUNCTION BELTS TO INSURE THEY FUNCTION PROPERLY

- NOTE RESULTS
- DOES THE BUCKLE LATCH?
  - ☒ YES ☐ NO
- IF NO, EXPLAIN
- DO THEY RELEASE?
  - ☒ YES ☐ NO
- IF NO, EXPLAIN
- DO THEY RETRACT?
  - ☐ YES ☒ NO
- IF NO, EXPLAIN
- Retract Very Slowly**
- ANY LOOSENESS OR BROKEN PARTS
  - ☐ YES ☒ NO
- IF YES, EXPLAIN?
- CHECK FOR SEAT RETAINING BOLTS
  - ☒ NORMAL
  - ☐ BROKEN
  - ☐ LOOSE
  - ☐ MISSING
- NOTE AND RECORD APPROX. SEAT TRACK OVERLAP

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**PART - E TRANSMISSION NOT APPLICABLE**

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**PART - F UNINTENDED ACCELERATION NOT APPLICABLE****PART - G BRAKES NOT APPLICABLE****PART - H STEERING/SUSPENSION/TIRES NOT APPLICABLE****PART - I AXLE/DIFFERENTIAL NOT APPLICABLE**☒ **PART J - ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (DO NOT DRAW ANY CONCLUSIONS)**

My inspection of underhood secondary release latch and bell crank indicate they are heavily rusted and corroded. Secondary release rod and bellcrank was found to be stuck upward in a released position when hood was initially raised for inspection. Secondary release latch was very stiff and would not return to a latched position unless manually pulled back down-ward. Lower hood primary cable release latch located on radiator core support is heavily rusted. Both latch`s indicate lack lubrication [REDACTED] advised me that there was possibly additional damaged @ RH lower area when vehicle driver (Bob Kastorik(?)) pulled over to RH side of road and scrapped a guardrail. RH Door rear edge; RH lower Cab panel; RR front lower forward area 1/4" panel. Above RH lower area`s of body damage appear to be recent scrapes with no evidence of accumulated rust on above panels. Inspection of vehicle indicates previous use as a serious hard work truck. There is multiple damage to pick up bed inner & outer side and top panels; Rear bumper twisted downward at RR; Rear cab back glass duct taped at LR Front bumper lower lite gray hard plastic filler material separated and protrudes from front bumper @ center and LH & RH ends.

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