

Automotive Safety Office Environmental and Safety Engineering

January 8, 2010

Ms. Kathleen C. DeMeter, Director Office of Defects Investigation Safety Assurance National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W45-302 Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

Subject: EA08-018:NVS-213kmb

In a December 15, 2009, phone conversation with Ford personnel, the agency requested an update of reports and claims concerning Engineering Analysis (EA08-018), which was opened to investigate allegations of front suspension coil spring fracture in 2002 through 2003 model year Ford Taurus and Mercury Sable vehicles. Ford's response to the agency's request is enclosed. The search parameters, criteria, and categorizations that were used in response to this request are consistent with those used in previous responses to this EA. Ford searched for reports and claims received between the date of the last search (July 6, 2009) and the date of the agency's current request (December 15, 2009).

Ford notes that some of the information being produced pursuant to this request may contain personal information such as customer names, addresses, telephone numbers, and complete Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs). Ford is producing such personal information in an unredacted form to facilitate the agency's investigation with the understanding that the agency will not make such personal information available to the public under FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).

No lawsuits, crash or injury reports, or legal contacts were found. Owner reports, field reports, and warranty claims responsive to the agency's request are provided in Appendix C.

If you have any questions concerning this response, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

R. A. Nevi

**Assistant Director** 

D. A. Nevi

Global Automotive Safety Compliance

Attachment