



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE09-021
Date Opened: 05/04/2009
Principal Investigator: Sonny Murianka
Subject: Side Wheel Chair Door Ajar

Manufacturer: Freightliner LLC
Products: 2009-2010 Thomas Built Transit EF Buses
Population: 2,500 (estimate)

Problem Description: The side wheelchair door may unlatch while the bus is in motion. Under certain conditions, this will cause the service brake to apply.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	6		
Crashes/Fires:	0		
Injury Incidents:	0		
# Injuries:	0		
Fatality Incidents:	0		
# Fatalities:	0		
Other:	0		

Description of Other:

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation (PE) has been opened.

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

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Summary:

The New York DOT informed ODI that during a recent transit bus inspection, they identified buses on which the side wheelchair door would become ajar during the driving portion of the inspection. Under certain circumstances, when the door becomes ajar, the service brakes apply and the bus cannot be moved until the driver gets out of the bus and secures the door.

This investigation is opened to further study this issue. ODI's concern is that this problem may disable the bus in an undesirable location on the highway.