



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** PE 13-027  
**Date Opened:** 08/19/2013  
**Investigator:** Evan Frings  
**Approver:** Frank Borris  
**Subject:** 2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee Headliner Fires  
**Reviewer:** Scott Yon

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** Chrysler Group LLC  
**Products:** 2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee  
**Population:** 146,000 (Estimated)  
**Problem Description:** A headliner fire may ignite near the passenger side sun visor.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	3	TBD	TBD
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	3	TBD	TBD
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Number of Injuries:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Number of Fatalities:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Other*:</b>	0	Confidential	Confidential

\*Description of Other: Related data submitted under Early Warning Reporting.

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** Open a Preliminary Evaluation

### Summary:

ODI has received three reports from consumers alleging the headliner of the vehicle caught fire near the area of the passenger side sun visor. The customers reported a burning odor and visible smoke coming from the headliner while the vehicle was being driven. This was followed by flames from the headliner itself. Customers lowered the windows in an effort to clear the smoke but this increased the fire's intensity. All three vehicles had to be extinguished with a fire extinguisher or by the fire department as they continued to burn after the vehicle was turned off. The fire also caused the sunroof to shatter in one incident, and in another the fire spread to the passenger seat when the burning sun visor fell onto the seat. In each case, the incident resulted in the vehicle being inoperable requiring it to be towed to the dealership.

NHTSA is opening this investigation to evaluate the scope, frequency, and consequence of the alleged defect.

The ODI reports cited above can be reviewed at [www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/complaints](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/complaints) under the following identification (ODI) numbers: 10522665, 10522159, and 10515592.