



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 17-007
Date Opened: 10/23/2017
Investigator: Nathan Ong **Reviewer:** Paul Simmons
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Steering Wheel Fastening Bolt Loosens

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company
Products: 2014-2016 Ford Fusion
Population: 841,000 (Estimated)
Problem Description: The steering wheel fastening bolt loosens.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3	TBD	TBD
Crashes/Fires:	0	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Injuries:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Fatalities:	0	TBD	TBD

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open Preliminary Evaluation

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received three (3) Vehicle Owner Questionnaire (VOQ) reports alleging the steering wheel fastening bolt became loose in model years 2014 through 2016 Ford Fusion vehicles. ODI has received one (1) report on each model year. The VOQs stated that the steering wheel became loose while the vehicle was in operation. Two of the complainants reported that the bolt attaching the wheel to the steering column had to be re-tightened at a repair facility. The third complainant alleged that while attempting to turn into a gas station, the steering wheel became completely detached from the steering column.

A detached steering wheel can result in a loss of vehicle control that may lead to a crash. A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the scope, frequency, and safety-related consequence of the alleged defect.

The ODI reports cited above can be viewed at <http://www-odi.nhtsa.gov/complaints> under the following identification numbers: 10875757, 11013849, and 110252321