



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 18-005
Date Opened: 05/04/2018
Investigator: Lauren Firey **Reviewer:** Jeff Quandt
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Upper Steering Column Separation

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Toyota Motor Corporation
Products: 2008-2013 Toyota Highlander
Population: 732,500 (Estimated)
Problem Description: Upper steering column may separate from lower column while adjusting steering wheel position (tilt and/or telescoping).

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
Other*:	0	Confidential	Confidential

*Description of Other: Early Warning Reporting (EWR) field report data.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received three (3) complaints (VOQs) reporting incidents of steering column separation. All three incidents occurred while adjusting the steering wheel position using the telescoping/tilt feature. A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the scope, frequency and safety consequences of the alleged defect.

The following VOQ numbers are associated with the issues discussed in this opening resume: 11083623, 11083280, 10888043