



1825 Connecticut Ave. NW Suite 330 Washington, DC 20009  
www.autosafety.org

October 12, 2018

Kyung Soo Lee  
President & CEO  
Hyundai Motor America  
10550 Talbert Ave  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Mr. Lee:

On behalf of the Center for Auto Safety's members across the United States, the hundreds of Hyundai owners of Sonata and Santa Fe vehicles, and all drivers, passengers, and pedestrians, we ask that Hyundai recall all MY 2011-2014 Sonata and Santa Fe vehicles because of a significant risk of non-collision fires.

As you may be aware, on June 12, 2018, the Center for Auto Safety (Center) petitioned the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to initiate a safety defect investigation into the excessive number of non-collision related fires that the owners and operators of these vehicles suffer as compared to similar class and model year vehicles from other manufacturers. The petition included your sister company's Kia Sorento and Optima vehicles. On July 24, 2018, the 2010-2015 Kia Soul was added to our petition as well.

While a response to that petition remains pending, the Center has now learned of over 220 complaints of non-collision fires in these 5 vehicles during these model years. This includes an 85% increase in reports since filing our original petition. This also includes at least one dozen consumers who had either the 17V-224 or the 17V-226 recalls performed and yet still experienced a non-collision fire.

Amazingly, there has only been one death associated with these fires – so far. The Center for Auto Safety calls on Hyundai to act before there is another tragedy. The time is now to recall these vehicles, determine why they are catching on fire, and remedy the situation.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter,

Jason Levine  
Executive Director

cc: SeungKyu Yoon, President & CEO Kia Motors America  
Heidi King, Deputy Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ES18-00374D

## **Bransom, Rhonda CTR (NHTSA)**

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**From:** Rawls, Belinda (NHTSA)  
**Sent:** Friday, October 12, 2018 2:12 PM  
**To:** Korkor, Julie (NHTSA); Davis, Cynthia L (NHTSA); Bransom, Rhonda CTR (NHTSA)  
**Subject:** FW: Center for Auto Safety Letter for Kyung Soo Lee  
**Attachments:** Center for Auto Safety letter to Hyundai regarding recall of MY 2011-2014 Sonata and Santa Fe vehicles.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

For appropriate handling

**From:** contact [mailto:contact@autosafety.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 11, 2018 7:32 PM  
**To:** jtrainor@hmausa.com; consumeraffairs@hmausa.com  
**Cc:** Rawls, Belinda (NHTSA) <Belinda.Rawls@dot.gov>; jbell@kiausa.com; syoon@kiausa.com  
**Subject:** Center for Auto Safety Letter for Kyung Soo Lee

Please find attached a letter for President & CEO Kyung Soo Lee of Hyundai containing a call for a recall of all Model Year 2011-2014 Sonata and Santa Fe vehicles because of a significant risk of non-collision fires.

We have made a similar call to President & CEO SeungKyu Yoon of Kia with respect to all MY 2011-2014 Sorento and Optima, and MY 2010-2015 Soul vehicles for a significant risk of non-collision fires.

We have also copied a representative of Heidi King, Deputy Administrator, NHTSA in this communication.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

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