



U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE24024
Prompted By: VOQ and Early Warning Report (EWR) review
Date Opened: 09/06/2024
Investigator: Daniel Pinero **Reviewer:** Bruce York
Approver: Tanya Topka
Subject: Underhood fires

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Chrysler (FCA US, LLC)
Products: 2021-2023 Jeep Wrangler and 2021-2023 Jeep Gladiator
Population: 781,459 (Estimated)
Problem Description: Underhood fires while vehicle in ignition off state

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	EWR D&I	Other	Total	EWR Field Reports
All Incidents:	9	0	1	0	9*	CONF
Crashes/Fires:	9	0	1	0	9*	CONF
Injury Incidents:	0	0	1	0	1	0
Number of Injuries:	0	0	1	0	1	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0	0	0	0

*Total eliminates duplicates received by the manufacturer

ACTION/SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open this Preliminary Evaluation (PE)

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received 9 Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire (VOQ) reports, 1 Death and Injury report, and multiple field reports alleging incidents of engine compartment fires in model year (MY) 2021-2023 Jeep Wrangler and Gladiator vehicles. The majority of the reports describe a fire occurring while the ignition in the vehicle was in an 'OFF' state with a suspected origin at the passenger front side of the engine compartment. An ignition

'OFF' vehicle fire can result in an increased risk of occupant injury, injury to persons outside the vehicle, and property damage, with little to no warning.

ODI has contacted the vehicle manufacturer, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA), and learned of several thermal events originating at the power steering pump electrical connector in recent model year Jeep Wrangler and Gladiator vehicles. The location of the pump connector is located at the passenger front side of the engine compartment, coinciding with the majority of fire reports known to ODI.

ODI is opening this Preliminary Evaluation (PE) to assess the cause, scope, and frequency of the alleged defect. To review the ODI reports cited in the Opening Resume ODI Report Identification Numbers document, go to [NHTSA.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov).