



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National  
Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

## ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

**Investigation:** DP25001

**Prompted By:** Defect Petition

**Date Opened:** 09/05/2025

**Investigator:** Jayson Winick

**Reviewer:** Peter Kivett

**Approver:** Tanya Topka

**Subject:** Underbody shields detachment

### MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** Ford Motor Company

**Products:** MY 2020 Ford Explorer

**Population:** 265,591 (Estimated)

**Problem Description:** The petition cites an allegation of degradation and detachment of underbody shields.

### FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	EWR D&I	Other	Total	EWR Field Reports
<b>All Incidents:</b>	1	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Number of Injuries:</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Number of Fatalities:</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

### ACTION/SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** Further evaluation of a Defect Petition for a grant or deny decision

**Summary:**

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) received a petition on August 22, 2025, requesting a defect investigation into an alleged defect of the “underbody shields” on model year (MY) 2020 Ford Explorer vehicles. The petition itself can be reviewed at [NHTSA.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov) under ODI number 11682326.

The petition cites an allegation of premature degradation and detachment of the plastic underbody shields, potentially leading to road debris.  
A defect petition has been opened to evaluate the issue and determine whether to grant or deny the petition.