



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

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

ODI RESUME

Investigation: DP26009
Prompted By: Defect Petition
Date Opened: 09/14/2026
Investigator: Roy Nelson **Reviewer:** Gregory Magno
Approver: Tanya Topka
Subject: Driveshaft to rear differential connection failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: BMW of North America, LLC
Products: 2022 540i
Population: 18,150

Problem Description: Excessive wear and failure of the driveshaft to rear differential connection causes a loss of powertrain engagement to the rear wheels.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	EWR D&I	Other	Total	EWR Field Reports
All Incidents:	1	0	0	0	1	0
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0	0	0	0

ACTION/SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open Defect Petition

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) received on September 1, 2026 a defect petition dated August 5, 2026, requesting an investigation into an alleged defect in BMW rear differential assemblies.

The petitioner alleges Model year (MY) 2022 BMW 540i vehicles are experiencing a sudden mechanical failure that severs the drive connection between the driveshaft and the rear wheels.

This defect petition has been opened to evaluate the issue and determine whether to grant or deny the petition. BMW filed Safety Recall 26V525 on August 12, 2026.

The petition can be reviewed at [NHTSA.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov) under ODI number 11761650.