

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573

Assigned Recall No. <u>04V-328</u> by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Report Date: July 6, 2004 Date Faxed/E-Mailed: July 12, 2004

MANUFACTURER: Ford Motor Company

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: James Vondale, Director, Automotive Safety Office

FAX: (313) 594-2268

SUBJECT: 47,314 Ford 2003 Crown Victoria police/commercial vehicles, and Lincoln Town Car model vehicles sold to fleets. These vehicles typically input higher loads into the vehicle chassis during fleet usage, overloading the wheel bearings and axles. This could lead to early bearing failure and ultimately axle shaft fracture. Ford Recall No. 04816.

This is an acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be written only if we have additional comments or concerns.

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin during July 2004. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by October 30, 2004.

Please let me know when the actual mailing takes place, and as usual, provide this office with final copies of all documents relating to the recall.

If you have any questions, please call:

Patricia Wallace, Safety Defects Analyst on (202) 366-5232 or George Person, Chief on (202) 366-5210 or Fax at (202) 366-7882 or e-mail at Patricia. Wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov

Recall Management Division