



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

**MAY - 3 2005**

MR. TIMOTHY BLUBAUGH  
DIRECETOR  
GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL AFFAIRS  
FREIGHTLINER LLC  
4747 N. CHANNEL AVENUE  
PORTLAND, OR 97217

NVS-215kjs  
05V-191

Subject: FMVSS NOS. 108 AND 131/SIGNAL MALFUNCTIONS

Dear MR. BLUBAUGH:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect or noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information will be accessible to the public.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

THOMAS BUILT/SAF-T-LINER C2/2004-2005

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 05V-191

**Recall Date:** April 20, 2005

**Components:**

EXTERIOR LIGHTING

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 49

**Summary:**

CERTAIN THOMAS BUILT MY 2004 AND 2005 SAF-T-LINER C2 SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN AUGUST 13, 2004, AND MARCH 1, 2005. DUE TO SOFTWARE COMMUNICATION CONFLICTS, THE TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES SUCH AS THE FLASHING WARNING LIGHTS OR THE STOP SIGNAL ARM MAY NOT WORK OR MAY NOT WORK CORRECTLY. THESE BUSES FAIL TO CONFORM TO THE FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD REQUIREMENTS OF 108, LAMPS, REFLECTIVE DEVICES, AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT, AND STANDARD 131, SCHOOL BUS PEDESTRIAN SAFETY DEVICES.

**Consequence:**

TO BE DETERMINED.

**Remedy:**

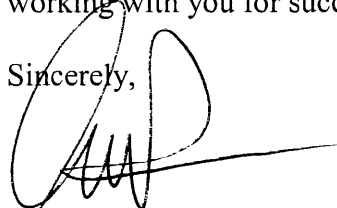
THOMAS BUILT WILL NOTIFY ITS CUSTOMERS AND REPAIR THE BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN JUNE 15, 2005.

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, 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, the recall is expected to begin on June 15, 2005. Since the campaign is expected to begin late in the quarter, the first quarterly report will be due by October 30, 2005.

Your contact for this recall will be KELLY SCHULER, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227 or by email at [KSCHULER@NHTSA.DOT.GOV](mailto:KSCHULER@NHTSA.DOT.GOV). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Person', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

George H. Person  
Chief, Recall Management Division