



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

DEC 20 2006

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Steve Gladow
Engineering Manager
Collins Bus Corporation
P.O. Box 2946
Hutchinson, KS 67504

NVS-215kjs

Dear Mr. Gladow:

Collins Bus Corporation (Collins) is requested, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30165, 30166, and 30119, to renotify owners involved in safety recall 05V-343 who have not had their school buses corrected or otherwise accounted for. This recall involves 1,345 2002-2005 MY Collins Bantam, Super Bantam, and Grand Bantam school buses equipped with Specialty MFG "5" series stop arms. The remedy for this recall campaign is to replace the original switch with a switch pack that is not as sensitive to extreme weather and dealers will inspect to ensure the microswitch heater wiring is properly connected. Through the third quarter of 2006, Collins' fourth reporting quarter, Collins reports that of the 1,345 school buses involved, 272 have been remedied, resulting in a completion rate of 20 percent.

Collins should conduct the owner renotification in accordance with the guidelines listed below.

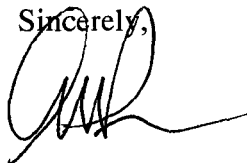
- Before conducting the owner renotification, Collins should obtain an updated owner list, for this recall campaign, based on current state motor vehicle registration records.
- Collins' proposed owner renotification letter for this recall must meet the requirements of 49 CFR Part 577.10, "Follow-up Notification," and must be submitted to NHTSA for review before owner renotification begins. Part 577.10(e)(1) specifically requires that the renotification letter be identified as a "... follow-up to an earlier communication."
- In addition to the six quarterly status reports required under 49 CFR Part 573.6, "Quarterly Reports," Collins is requested to file three additional quarterly status reports.

- Furnish a proposed schedule for conducting the owner renotification that includes the following information:
 - a. the date on which the search of current state motor vehicle registration records will be initiated in order to update the original owner list;
 - b. the approximate date on which the revised owner list will be available to initiate owner renotification;
 - c. the approximate date on which the owner renotification will begin; and
 - d. the approximate date on which the owner renotification will be completed (if the owner renotification is to be staggered, give the beginning and ending owner renotification date for each segment).

Collins' renotification schedule and a draft of the proposed owner renotification letter must be submitted to this office by January 24, 2007.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Kelly Schuler of my staff at (202) 366-5227, by fax at (202) 366-7882, or by e-mail at kschuler@nhtsa.dot.gov.

Sincerely,

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

George Person, Chief
Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement