

U.S. Department of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW Washington, DC 20590

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

April 14, 2006

JAMES VONDALE
DIRECTOR, AUTOMOTIVE SAFETY OFFICE
ENVIRONMENTAL & SAFETY ENGINEERING
FORD MOTOR COMPANY
330 TOWN CENTER DRIVE SUITE 400
DEARBORN MI 48126-2738

NVS-215 06V-119

Subject: CELLULAR HANDS-FREE PHONE OPTION/FMVSS 208

Dear MR. VONDALE:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

## Makes/Models/Model Years:

FORD/TAURUS/2006

NHTSA Campaign Number: 06V-119

Mfg's Report Date: April 7, 2006

**Components:** ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: INSTRUMENT PANEL

Potential Number of Units Affected: 19

## **Summary:**

CERTAIN PASSENGER VEHICLES BUILT FOR ONE SPECIFIC FLEET CUSTOMER WERE MODIFIED FOR OPTIONAL HANDS-FREE CELLULAR PHONE OPERATING CAPABILITY. TO PROVIDE THIS FUNCTIONALITY, A SPECIAL OVERLAY WIRE HARNESS WAS INSTALLED THAT INADVERTENTLY DID NOT INCLUDE THE CIRCUITS FOR PASSENGER AIR BAG DEACTIVATION INDICATOR (PADI) LAMP FUNCTION. AS A RESULT, THESE VEHICLES DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 208, 'OCCUPANT CRASH PROTECTION.'

# Consequence:

THE PADI LAMP WILL FAIL TO ILLUMINATE AND THE AIR BAG WARNING LAMP IN THE CLUSTER WILL STAY ILLUMINATED.

## Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE WIRE OVERLAY HARNESS. THE MANUFACTURER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED AN OWNER NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT FORD AT 1-800-392-3673.

#### Notes:

FORD RECALL NO. 06C13. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV.

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available.

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 required 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).

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at <a href="mailto:patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov">patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov</a> or <a href="mailto:delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov">delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov</a>. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

George H. Person

Chief, Recall Management Division

Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement

Sincerely