



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

*May 23, 2006*

JEFFREY SATOSKI  
COMPLIANCE ENGINEER  
GULF STREAM COACH, INC.  
503 S. OAKLAND AVENUE  
NAPPANEE IN 46550

NVS-215  
06V-178

Subject: STEERING GEAR SUPPORT FAILURE/SPARTAN

Dear MR. SATOSKI:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect 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:**

GULF STREAM/FRIENDSHIP/1998-1999  
GULF STREAM/SCENIC CRUISER/1998-1999  
GULF STREAM/TOURMASTER/1998-1999

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 06V-178

**Mfg's Report Date:** May 19, 2006

**Components:** STEERING

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 39

**Summary:**

ON CERTAIN CLASS A MOTOR HOMES EQUIPPED WITH SPARTAN CHASSIS STEERING GEAR, THE STEERING GEAR SUPPORT BRACKET HAS THE POTENTIAL TO FAIL WHEN SUBJECT TO THE REPETITIVE FORCES OF STATIC STEERING CONDITIONS.

**Consequence:**

LOSS OF STEERING CONTROL COULD OCCUR INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

GULFSTREAM IS WORKING WITH SPARTAN AND WILL REPLACE THE STEERING SUPPORT BRACKET FREE OF CHARGE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT GULFSTREAM AT 574-773-7761 OR SPARTAN AT 517-543-6400.

**Notes:**

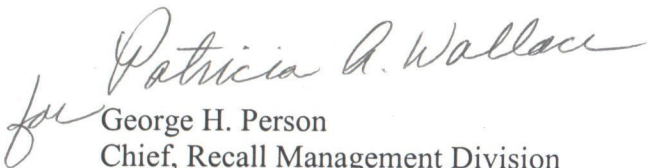
CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

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 your report, Spartan will be handling the owner notification, remedy, and quarterly reporting for this campaign. However, please be advised that 49 CFR 573.5 provides that the vehicle manufacturer is responsible for any safety related defect or any noncompliance in the vehicle or any item of original equipment. If Spartan's campaign is not satisfactory, you may be required to conduct a follow-up notification.

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 [patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov) or [delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov](mailto:delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



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