# **CUSTONIER LETTER**

Subaru of America, Inc. Subaru Plaza P.O. Box 6000 Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-6000 www.subaru.com

Important Safety Recall Notice Subaru Recall Campaign WVC-13 NHTSA Recall No. 07V-043 March 2007

## Dear Subaru Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. SUBARU OF AMERICA, INC. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2006 model year Subaru Forester and Impreza vehicles.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE SAFETY DEFECT

Subaru has determined that your vehicle could have been manufactured with an improperly routed electrical wiring harness. That harness could have been pinched against the passenger front seat mounting bolt during production. If the wiring harness was improperly installed, an electrical short could occur.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE SAFETY HAZARDS

There are two safety risks associated with this condition. The first is that the passenger's front air bag, which is connected to this wiring harness, could become disabled, in which case it would not deploy as designed in an accident and would therefore expose the right front passenger to the possibility of serious injuries. The second is that an electrical short circuit could, under some circumstances, cause a fire.

If an electrical short circuit occurs in this wiring harness, fuse #6 (located in the fuse panel on the lower left side of the dashboard) will "blow", disabling the passenger front air bag. This could occur at any time and without prior warning. But once it occurs, you will be alerted to this condition by the illumination of the air bag system warning light on your vehicle's instrument panel. You will also be alerted to this condition if the passenger's frontal air bag ON/OFF indicator indicates "OFF" even if an adult passenger is occupying that seat.

If fuse #6 had previously blown and been replaced with no repair made to correct the underlying cause, there is a possibility that this wiring harness has already been damaged due to a short circuit. Under these circumstances, the new replacement fuse may not blow and a fire could occur at any time without warning. In Forester models, it could happen even if the ignition switch is in the "LOCK" (off) position.

If you encounter a blown fuse, an illuminated air bag system warning light, smell smoke, or have replaced a blown fuse #6 without correcting the underlying problem, do not operate the vehicle. Contact your nearest Subaru dealer as soon as possible for guidance.

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#### **REPAIRS**

To correct this condition, Subaru will inspect and if necessary, repair and reposition the wire harness at no cost to you.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

You should immediately contact your Subaru Dealer for an appointment to have this wire harness routing inspected and any related repairs performed at no cost to you.

## HOW LONG WILL THE REPAIR TAKE?

The actual time to inspect the wiring is approximately 20 minutes. It may take an additional 45 minutes if the wiring requires repositioning and/or repair. However, it may be necessary to leave your vehicle the full day of your scheduled appointment to allow your dealer flexibility in scheduling. Please present this letter to your Subaru Dealer at the time this repair procedure is performed.

# CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS OR SOLD YOUR SUBARU?

If you have moved or sold your vehicle, please complete the enclosed prepaid postcard and mail it to us.

## IF YOU NEED FURTHER ASSISTANCE:

To locate the nearest Subaru Dealer you can access our website at www.Subam.com and select "Find a Dealer". Or, you may call us at I-800-SUBARU3 (1-800-782-2783) during normal business hours for assistance. Please call us immediately if the dealer fails or is unable to make the necessary repairs free of charge or write to the address listed on the first page of this letter.

You may also contact the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590 or call the toll free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 or go to http://www.safercar.govif you believe the dealer has failed or is unable to remedy your vehicle without charge within a reasonable amount of time.

Your continued satisfaction with your Subaru is important to us. Please understand that we have taken this action in the interest of your safety and your vehicle's proper operation. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this matter may cause and urge you to schedule an appointment as soon as possible to have this repair performed.

Sincerely, Subaru of America, Inc.

#### Notice to Lessors

Under Federal law the lessor of a vehicle who receives this letter must provide a copy of it to the vehicle lessee(s) within 10 business days from receipt. The lessor must also keep n record of the lessee(s) to whom this letter is sent, the date sent, and the applicable vehicle identification number (VIN). (For the purposes of this section, a lessor means a person or entity that in the last twelve months prior to the date of this notification has been the owner, as referenced on the vehicle's title, of any five or more leased vehicles. A leased vehicle is a vehicle leased to another person for a term of at least four months.)

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