

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

DaimlerChrysler Corporation

Stephan J. Speth

Director

Vehicle Compliance & Safety Affairs

April 16, 2007

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator, Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

Reference: NHTSA Identification Number 07V-104

Enclosed are representative copies of communications relating to the 2007 and 2008 model year vehicles involved in the referenced recall. DaimlerChrysler expects to notify dealers during the week of April 23, 2007 and to begin owner notification during the week of April 30, 2007. The exact number of manufactured vehicles in the recall is 17,475.

The involved Vehicle Identification Number range is:

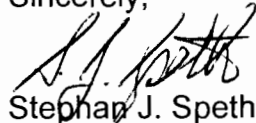
<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>
7N500273	7N500317
8N503334	8N607829

(VIN last eight characters) - 7 = 2007 model year; 8 = 2008 model year; N = Sterling Heights Assembly Plant, Sterling Heights, Michigan; and the last six digits = sequential number.

We caution that the above range represents only the lowest and highest VIN sequential numbers included in the recall. This range cannot be used to determine conclusively that a vehicle is involved in the recall because most vehicles with a VIN within the range are not affected by the recall.

This completes DaimlerChrysler's package of information for this recall as required by the Defects Report Regulation.

Sincerely,



Stephan J. Speth, Director
Vehicle Compliance and Safety Affairs

Enclosure: Dealer and Owner Letter for Recall G12

cc: K.C. DeMeter

April 2007

Dealer Service Instructions for:

Safety Recall G12 Front Door Latches

Models

2007 - 2008 (JS) Dodge Avenger

NOTE: This recall applies only to the above vehicles built through March 7, 2007 (MDH 030711).

IMPORTANT: Some of the involved vehicles may be in dealer new vehicle inventory. Federal law requires you to complete this recall service on these vehicles before retail delivery. Dealers should also consider this requirement to apply to used vehicle inventory and should perform this recall on vehicles in for service. Involved vehicles can be determined by using the VIP inquiry process.

Subject

The front door latches on about 17,400 of the above vehicles may stick in the unlatched position during certain operating conditions. Attempting to drive a vehicle with a door in the unlatched position can result in increased risk of injury to an unbelted front seat occupant.

Repair

The right and left front door latches must be replaced.

Parts Information

<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
CBB0G120	Door Latches

Each package contains the following components:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Latch, Left Front Door
1	Latch, Right Front Door
2	Tie Strap

Each dealer to whom vehicles in the recall were assigned will receive enough Door Latch Cable Modification Packages to service 10% of those vehicles.

<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
82300234	RTV Sealant

NOTE: One tube of RTV sealant will repair 10 vehicles.

<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
04549615	Lubriplate All-Purpose White Grease

NOTE: One tube of Lubriplate will repair 30 vehicles.

Service Procedure

1. Place the window in the full up position.
2. Open the passenger door and remove the side view mirror flag bezel from the door.
3. Using a small screwdriver, open the interior door release handle screw cover (Figure 1).
4. Remove the interior door release handle retaining screw (Figure 1).
5. Using a small screwdriver, remove the door pull cup screw cover (Figure 1).

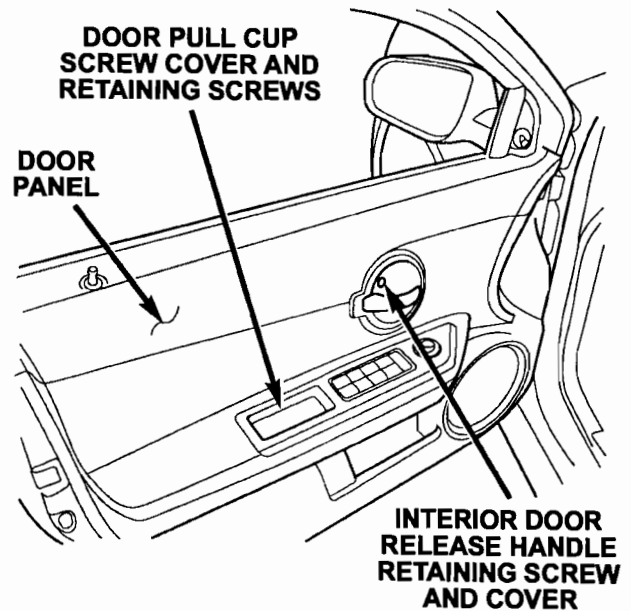


Figure 1

6. Remove the two pull cup retaining screws (Figure 1).
7. Separate the door trim panel from the door shell.
8. Disconnect the door latch cable end from the interior door release handle arm (Figure 2).

NOTE: A small number of vehicles may have a spring clamp and a piece of clear hose attached to the interior door release handle cable bezel. The spring clamp and clear hose can be removed and discarded.

9. Remove the door latch cable from the release handle cable bezel (Figure 2).
10. Disconnect the electrical connectors to the door panel switches and set the door panel aside.

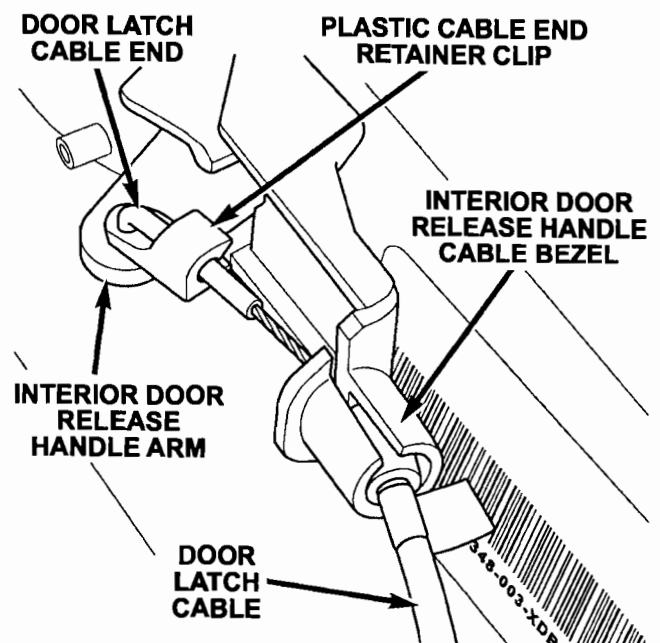


Figure 2

Service Procedure (Continued)

- Open the rubber door latch access cover from the door module carrier plate (Figure 3).

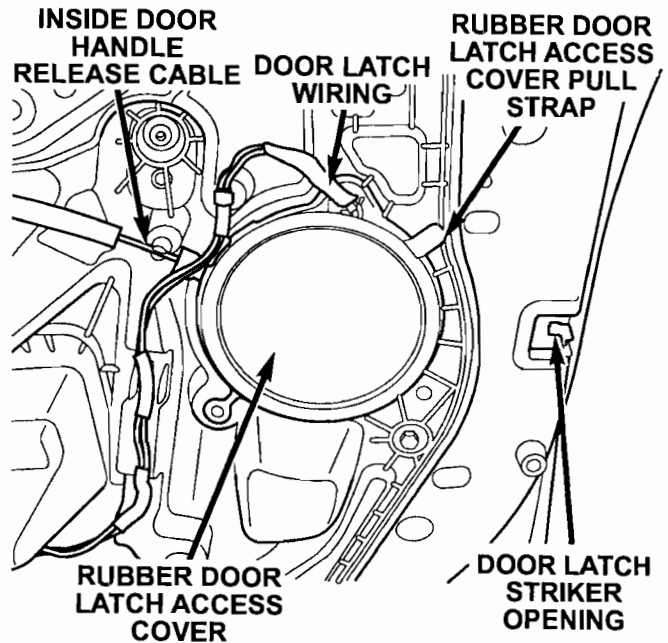


Figure 3

- A small relief must be cut into the door module latch access opening to allow the removal of the latch assembly. Using a cut-off wheel, remove a two inch wide section of the door module carrier plate down to the raised boss as shown in Figure 4.

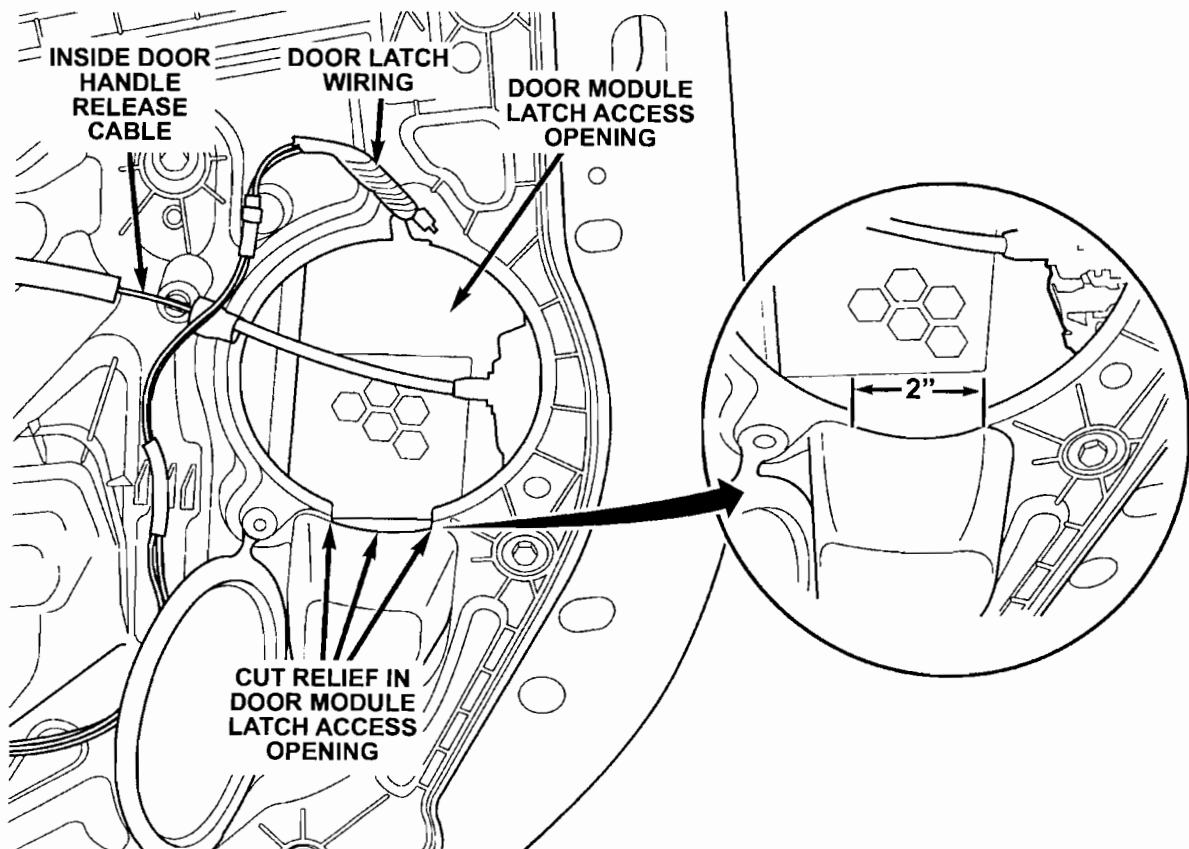


Figure 4

Service Procedure (Continued)

13. Remove the three latch retaining screws (Figure 5).

14. Disconnect the outside door handle linkage from the latch.

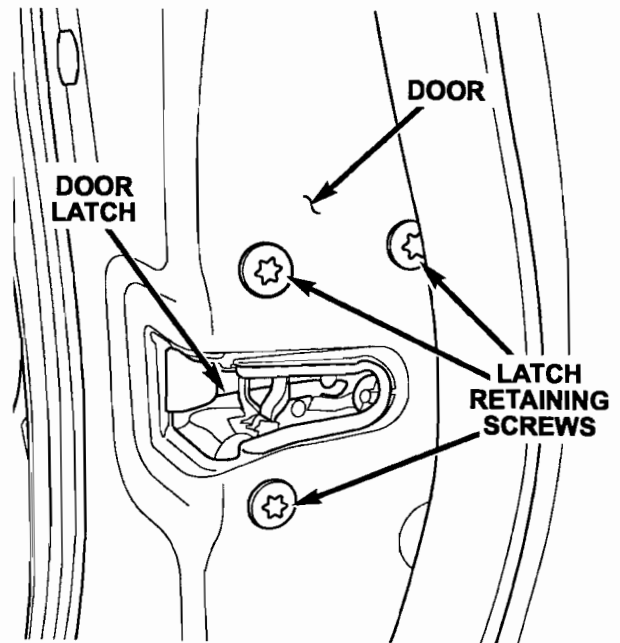


Figure 5

15. On driver's door only, disconnect the lock cylinder linkage at the latch.

16. Push upward on the latch locator bracket and latch assembly to separate the bracket and latch from the door module (Figure 6).

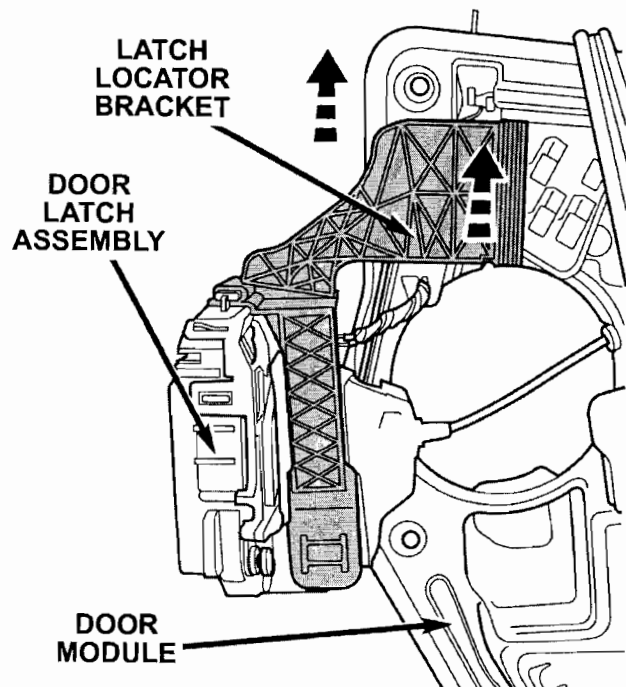


Figure 6 – View from Inside the Door

Service Procedure (Continued)

17. Remove the inside door handle release cable from the door latch.
18. Disconnect the power lock electrical connector from the door latch.
19. Remove the latch locator bracket from the latch and discard the locator bracket (Figure 7).
20. Remove the door manual door lock rod from the latch.
21. Remove and discard the old latch from the door.
22. Place the new door latch into the door.
23. Connect the manual lock rod to the latch.
24. Connect the inside door handle release cable to the door latch.
25. Place the latch in position and install the three latch retaining screws. Tighten the screws to 60 in. lbs. (7 N·m).

CAUTION: Do not over tighten the latch retaining screws as latch damage may occur.

26. Connect the door lock electrical connector to the latch.
27. Apply a small amount of Lubriplate® white grease on the cable strands where the inside door handle release cable attaches to the latch assembly (Figure 8).

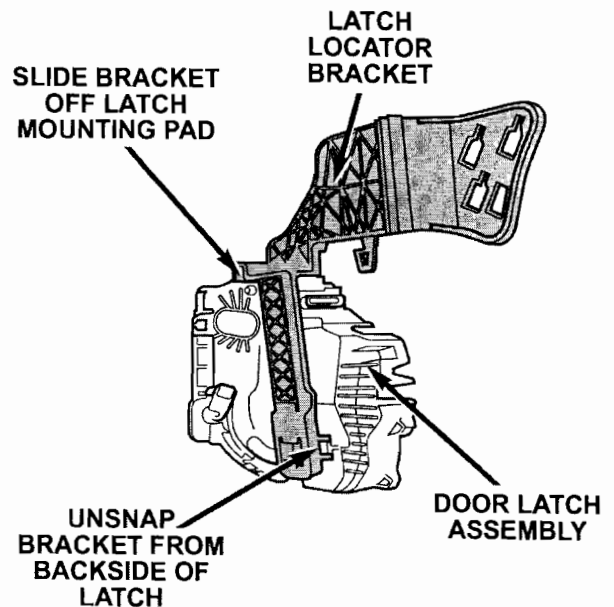


Figure 7 – View from Inside the Door

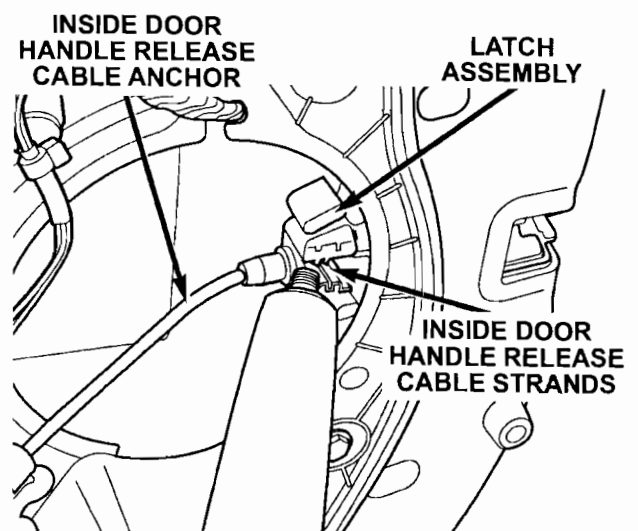


Figure 8

Service Procedure (Continued)

28. **On driver's side door only**, connect the door lock cylinder linkage to the door latch.
29. Connect the outside door handle linkage to the door latch.
30. Route the inside release handle cable along the door module.
31. Use the following procedure to verify that the latch and cable assembly are working correctly:
 - a. Pull on the inside release handle cable (Figure 9).
 - b. Quickly release the cable.
 - c. The cable should snap back.
 - d. If the cable does not snap back, determine the cause of the binding condition and correct as required.

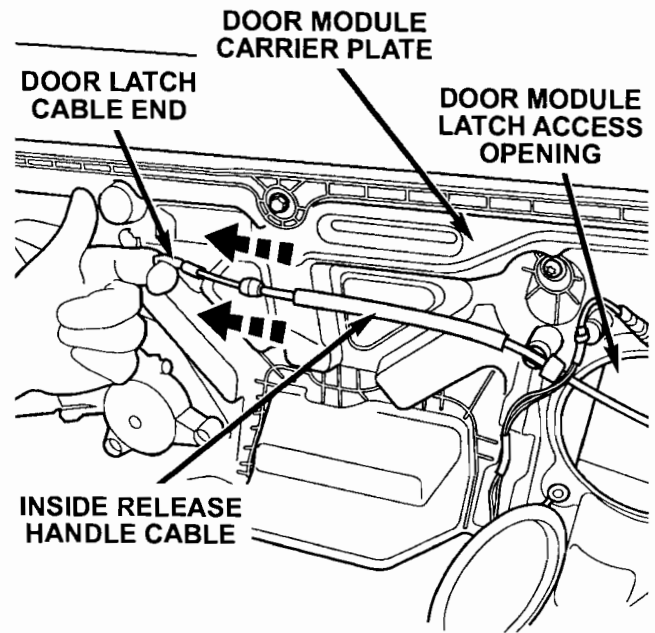


Figure 9

32. Route the power lock wiring so that it does not rub against the door glass or manual lock rod (Figure 10).
33. Place a tie strap around the wiring harness to keep the wiring harness from sliding into the door (Figure 10).

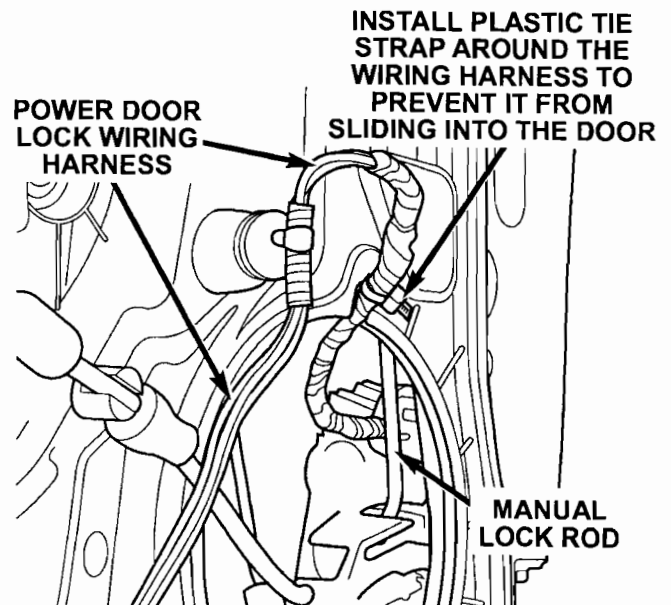


Figure 10

Service Procedure (Continued)

34. Apply a bead of RTV sealant (P/N 82300234) or equivalent to the edge of the door module latch access opening relief cutout (Figure 11).
35. Install the latch access cover onto the door module latch access opening.
36. Place the door panel near the door and connect the electrical connectors to the door panel switches.
37. Install the door latch cable to the release handle cable bezel (Figure 2).

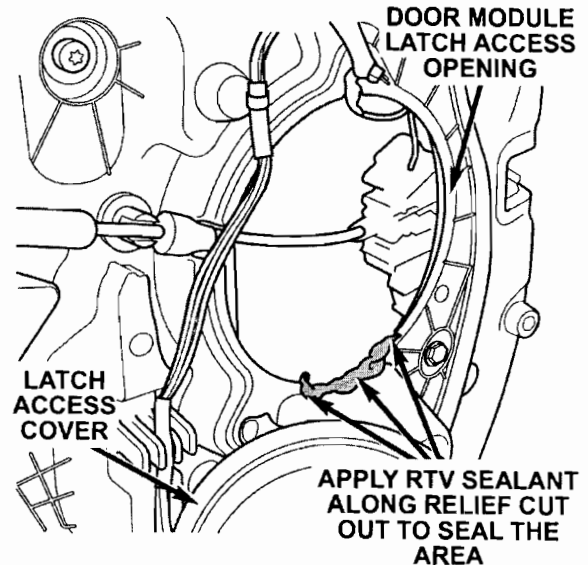


Figure 11

38. Connect the door latch cable end to the interior door release handle arm (Figure 2).
39. Snap the door latch cable to the cable retainer clip and install the door trim panel to the door (Figure 12).

NOTE: If the door latch cable retainer clip is broken, use a plastic tie strap to secure the cable in position.

40. Install the two pull cup retaining screws (Figure 1).
41. Install the door pull cup screw cover (Figure 1).
42. Install the interior door release handle retaining screw (Figure 1).
43. Install the interior door release handle screw cover (Figure 1).
44. Install the side view mirror flag bezel.

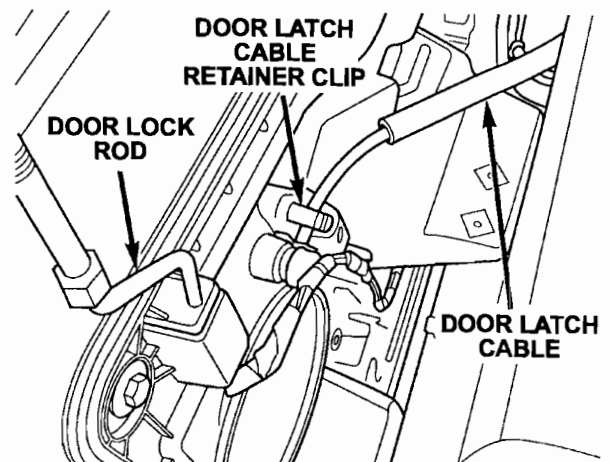


Figure 12

Service Procedure (Continued)

45. Use the following procedure to adjust the outside door handle:
 - a. Carefully remove and save the black tape patch that covers the adjuster access hole (Figure 13).
 - b. Insert a 5/32" (4 mm) hex (allen) wrench and loosen the adjuster lock screw.
 - c. With the adjuster lock screw loose, pull and release the outside door handle three times.
 - d. Tighten the adjuster lock screw securely.
 - e. Place the black tape patch back over the adjuster access hole.

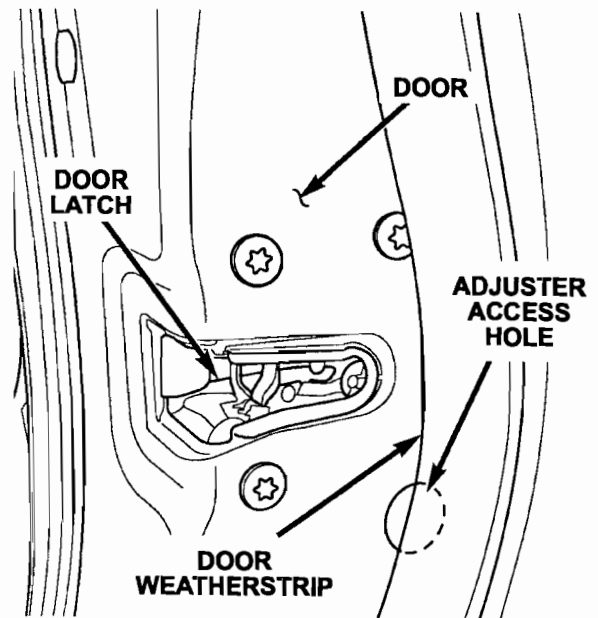


Figure 13 – Passenger Door Shown

46. Repeat the door latch replacement procedure on the driver's side front door.

Completion Reporting and Reimbursement

Claims for vehicles that have been serviced must be submitted on the DealerCONNECT Claim Entry Screen located on the Service tab. Claims submitted will be used by DaimlerChrysler to record recall service completions and provide dealer payments.

Use the following labor operation number and time allowance:

	Labor Operation <u>Number</u>	Time <u>Allowance</u>
Replace right and left front door latches	23-G1-21-82	0.9 hours

Add the cost of the recall parts package plus applicable dealer allowance to your claim.

NOTE: See the Warranty Administration Manual, Recall Claim Processing Section, for complete recall claim processing instructions.

Dealer Notification

All dealers will receive three copies of this dealer recall notification letter by mail. To view this notification on DealerCONNECT, select “Global Recall System” on the Service tab, then click on the description of this notification.

Owner Notification and Service Scheduling

All involved vehicle owners known to DaimlerChrysler are being notified of the service requirement by first class mail. They are requested to schedule appointments for this service with their dealers. A generic copy of the owner letter is attached.

Enclosed with each owner letter is an Owner Notification postcard to allow owners to update our records if applicable.

Vehicle Lists, Global Recall System, VIP and Dealer Follow Up

All involved vehicles have been entered into the DealerCONNECT Global Recall System (GRS) and Vehicle Information Plus (VIP) for dealer inquiry as needed.

GRS provides involved dealers with an updated VIN list of their incomplete vehicles. The owner’s name, address and phone number are listed if known. Completed vehicles are removed from GRS within several days of repair claim submission.

To use this system, click on the “**Service**” tab and then click on “**Global Recall System.**” Your dealer’s VIN list for each recall displayed can be sorted by: those vehicles that were unsold at recall launch, those with a phone number, city, zip code, or VIN sequence.

Dealers must perform this repair on all unsold vehicles *before* retail delivery. Dealers should also use the VIN list to follow up with all owners to schedule appointments for this repair.

Recall VIN lists may contain confidential, restricted owner name and address information that was obtained from the Department of Motor Vehicles of various states. Use of this information is permitted for this recall only and is strictly prohibited from all other use.

Additional Information

If you have any questions or need assistance in completing this action, please contact your Service and Parts District Manager.

Customer Services Field Operations
DaimlerChrysler Corporation

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

SAFETY RECALL G12 – FRONT DOOR LATCHES

Dear: (Name)

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

DaimlerChrysler Corporation has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in some **2007 and 2008 model year Dodge Avenger vehicles.**

The problem is... **The front door latches on your vehicle (VIN: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) may stick in the unlatched position during certain operating conditions. Attempting to drive a vehicle with a door in the unlatched position can result in increased risk of injury to an unbelted front seat occupant.**

What your dealer will do... **DaimlerChrysler will repair your vehicle free of charge (parts and labor). To do this, your dealer will replace the front door latches. The work will take about an hour to complete. However, additional time may be necessary depending on service schedules.**

What you must do to ensure your safety... **Simply contact your dealer right away to schedule a service appointment. Ask the dealer to hold the parts for your vehicle or to order them before your appointment. Remember to bring this letter with you to your dealer.**

If you need help... **If you have questions or concerns which your dealer is unable to resolve, please contact DaimlerChrysler at 1-800-853-1403.**

Please help us update our records, by filling out the attached prepaid postcard, if any of the conditions listed on the card apply to you or your vehicle.

If you have already experienced this condition and have paid to have it repaired, you may send your original receipts and/or other adequate proof of payment to the following address for reimbursement: DaimlerChrysler P.O. Box 4639 Oak Ridge, TN 37831, Attention: Reimbursement.

If your dealer fails or is unable to remedy this defect without charge and within a reasonable time, you may submit a written complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590, or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We're sorry for any inconvenience, but we are sincerely concerned about your safety. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Customer Services Field Operations
DaimlerChrysler Corporation
Notification Code G12

*Buckle up
for Safety!*

Note to lessors receiving this recall: Federal regulation requires that you forward this recall notice to the lessee within 10 days.