1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590



April 10, 2009

MR. LAWRENCE J. SAK VEHICLE COMPLIANCE & SAFETY AFFAIRS CHRYSLER LLC 800 CHRYSLER DRIVE CIMS-482-00-91 AUBURN HILLS MI 48326-2757

NVS-215dgl 09V-119

SUBJECT: UPPER BALL JOINT SEPARATION

DEAR MR. SAK:

This letter serves to acknowledge Chrysler LLC's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to Federal law.

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: JEEP/LIBERTY/2002-2003 Mfg's Report Date: April 7, 2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-119

Components: SUSPENSION: FRONT: CONTROL ARM

Potential Number of Units Affected: 42,469

Summary:

CHRYSLER IS RECALLING 42,469 MY 2002-2003 JEEP LIBERTY VEHICLES ORIGINALLY SOLD IN OR CURRENTLY REGISTERED IN SALT BELT STATES OF CONNECTICUT, DELAWARE, IOWA, ILLINOIS, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, MASSACHUSETTS, MAINE, MARYLAND, MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA, MISSOURI, NEW HAMPSHIRE, NEW JERSEY, NEW YORK, OHIO, PENNSYLVANIA, RHODE ISLAND, TENNESSEE, VERMONT, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA , WISCONSIN AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. THE FRONT SUSPENSION UPPER CONTROL ARM BALL JOINT MAY EXPERIENCE A LOSS OF LUBRICATION WHICH COULD LEAD TO CORROSION, ACCELERATED WEAR, AND POSSIBLE SEPARATION WHILE DRIVING.

Consequence:

FAILURE OF THE BALL JOINT COULD RESULT IN A LOSS OF STEERING CAPABILITY, INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE FRONT UPPER CONTROL ARM ASSEMBLIES FREE OF CHARGE. THE MANUFACTURER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED AN OWNER NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT CHRYSLER AT 1-800-853-1403.

Notes:

CHRYSLER RECALL NO. J17. 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 <u>HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV</u>.

This recall was the subject of an Engineering Analysis, EA08-008, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

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).

Please provide an estimated dealer notification date as well as an owner notification date (month/day/year).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contacts for this recall will be Delia Lopez or Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525 or 202-366-5227, or by email at <u>Delia.lopez@dot.gov</u>, or <u>Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov</u>, or through the office email at <u>RMD.ODI@dot.gov</u>. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

George H. Person/JTT

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