

**Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.** 19001 South Western Avenue, S207 Torrance, CA 90509-2991

TMS-NTC-12038 February 22, 2012

Recall Management Division National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

# Re: Toyota Safety Recalls 09V-332, 09V-388, 10V-023, 10V-345, 10V-499, 11V-304 and 11V-115 Dealer Notification Letter for Owner Follow-Up Notice

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached, for your records, representative copies of the Follow-Up Owner Notification on the following Toyota and Lexus vehicles:

NHTSA campaign ID	Toyota campaign No.	Vehicles Covered
09V-332	90G	2010 MY Corolla
09V-388	90L	2005 to Certain 2010 MY Tacoma, 2007 to Certain 2010 MY Tundra
10V-023	90L	2009 to Certain 2010 MY Corolla/Matrix
10V-345	A0H	2000-2004 Avalon
10V-499	A0M/ALG	2005-2006 Avalon, 2004-2006 MY Highlander, Certain 2006 GS300, IS250/350 and Certain 2004-2006 RX330
11V-304	B0G	2001-2003 MY Prius
11V-115	BLB	Certain 2006-Early 2007 GS300/350

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (310) 468-3392.

Sincerely.

George Morino National Manager, Quality Compliance

Attachments:

- Lexus 10V-499 (ALG) Owner Notification
- Lexus 11V-115 (BLB) Owner Notification
- Toyota 09V-332 (90G) Owner Notification
- Toyota 09V-388 (90L) Owner Notification
- Toyota 10V-023 (90L) Owner Notification
- Toyota 10V-345 (A0H) Owner Notification
- Toyota 10V-499 (A0M) Owner Notification
- Toyota 11V-304 (B0G) Owner Notification

# ΤΟΥΟΤΑ

**Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.** 19001 South Western Avenue P.O. Box 2991 Torrance, CA 90509-2991

# A0H – Certain 2000 through 2004 Toyota Avalon Steering Column Upper Bracket SAFETY RECALL FOLLOW-UP NOTICE

## URGENT

### Please make an appointment with your local Toyota Dealer to have this important remedy completed.

[VIN]

Dear Toyota Owner:

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Toyota has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in the Steering Column Upper Bracket of certain 2000 – 2004 Model Year Toyota Avalon vehicles. Our records indicate that you own a vehicle that has not yet had this condition corrected.

### What is the condition?

Due to the improper casting of the steering lock bar ("bar"), which is a component of the steering interlock system, there is a possibility that a minute crack may develop on the surface. Such a crack may expand over a long period of repeated lock and unlock operations, and eventually the bar could break. If this occurs, the interlock system may become difficult to unlock when stationary.

If the vehicle while being driven is steered to the right with sufficient lateral acceleration, a broken and loose lock bar may move toward the steering shaft. If the engagement hole in the shaft happens to line up at the specific time the broken lock bar has moved, this could cause the steering wheel lock bar to engage, locking the steering wheel, and increasing the risk of a crash.

# What is Toyota going to do?

Any Toyota dealer will replace the Steering Column Upper Bracket with a newly designed one at NO CHARGE to you.

# What should you do?

#### This is an important Safety Recall

Please contact your authorized Toyota dealer and make an appointment to have this important Safety Recall performed on your vehicle as soon as possible.

The remedy will take approximately two hours to complete. However, depending upon the dealer's work schedule, it may be necessary to make your vehicle available for a longer period of time.

### We request that you present this notice to the dealer at the time of your service appointment.

If you would like to update your vehicle ownership or contact information, please go to <u>www.toyota.com/ownersupdate</u>. You will need your full 17-digit Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) to input the new information.

#### What if you have other questions?

Your local Toyota dealer will be more than happy to answer any of your questions and set up an appointment to perform the replacement. If you require further assistance, you may contact the Toyota Customer Experience Center at 1-888-270-9371 Monday through Friday, 5:00 am to 6:00 pm, Saturday 7:00 am through 4:00 pm Pacific Time.

# What if you have previously paid for repairs for this condition?

If you have previously paid for the replacement of the steering column upper bracket to address this specific condition, please mail a copy of the repair order, proof-of-payment, and proof-of-ownership to the following address for reimbursement consideration:

Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., Toyota Customer Experience, WC10, 19001 South Western Avenue, Torrance, CA 90509 If you believe that the dealer or Toyota has failed or is unable to remedy the defect within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153) or go to www.safercar.gov.

If you are a vehicle lessor, Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the vehicle lessee within ten days of your receipt of this letter.

Thank you for driving a Toyota.

Sincerely,

TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC.

