



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

January 13, 2012

MR. STEVEN M. KENNER  
DIRECTOR, AUTOMOTIVE SAFETY OFFICE  
ENVIRONMENTAL & SAFETY ENGINEERING  
FORD MOTOR COMPANY  
330 TOWN CENTER DRIVE SUITE 400  
DEARBORN, MI 48126-2738

NVS-215dgl  
12V-009

**SUBJECT: AXLES/STEERING ARM BOLTS/MERITOR**

**DEAR MR. KENNER:**

This letter serves to acknowledge Ford Motor Company's (Ford) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

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:**  
FORD/F-650/2011

**Mfg's Report Date:** January 4, 2012

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-009

**Components:** POWER TRAIN: AXLE ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 36

**Summary:**

FORD IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2011 F-650 TRUCKS, MANUFACTURED FROM FEBRUARY 2, 2011, THROUGH FEBRUARY 17, 2011, AND EQUIPPED WITH A MERITOR MFS08 FRONT STEER AXLE. THE BOLTS ATTACHING THE STEERING ARM TO THE STEERING KNUCKLE WERE NOT PROPERLY TIGHTENED. THIS CONDITION CAN RESULT IN THE STEERING ARM LOOSENING OR SEPARATING.

**Consequence:**

LOSS OF STEERING CONTROL MAY INCREASE THE RISK OF A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

FORD WILL NOTIFY OWNERS, AND DEALERS WILL INSPECT THE STEERING ARM AND STEERING KNUCKLE, AND REPAIR THE VEHICLES AS NECESSARY, FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 18, 2012. OWNERS MAY CONTACT FORD MOTOR COMPANY CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP CENTER AT 1-866-436-7332.

**Notes:**

FORD'S SAFETY RECALL NUMBER IS 11S26. CUSTOMERS MAY 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).

We have received Ford's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which the campaign was initiated. Thereafter, quarterly reports will be due on or before 30 days after close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-9525, or by email at [Delia.Lopez@dot.gov](mailto:Delia.Lopez@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jen for" followed by a stylized signature.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement