



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 7, 2012

Mr. Steve Kenner
Ford Motor Company
330 Town Center Drive
Suite 400
Dearborn, MI 48126-2738

NVS-215ET
12V-422

Subject: Unapproved Steering Gear Adapter Plate Fastener

Dear Mr. Kenner:

This letter serves to acknowledge Ford Motor Company's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) 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-53/2013

Mfr's Report Date: August 23, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-422

Components:
STEERING

Potential Number of Units Affected: 31

Problem Description:

Ford is recalling certain model year 2013 F-53 motorhome stripped chassis vehicles manufactured from July 10, 2012 through July 13, 2012. These vehicles were assembled with incorrect steering gear adapter plate retention fasteners. steering gear adapter plate fasteners could lead to torque loss in the steering gear attachment, potentially leading to loosening and subsequent separation of the steering gear over time.

Consequence:

Separation of the steering gear may lead to a loss of vehicle control, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Ford will notify owners, and dealers will replace the steering gear adapter plate retention fasteners, free of charge. The safety recall began is expected to begin on September 7, 2012. Owners may contact Ford at 1-866-436-7332.

Notes:

Ford's recall campaign number is 12S38. 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 www.safercar.gov.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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).

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 contact for this recall will be Edison Thompson who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at edison.thompson@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Timian', written in a cursive style.

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