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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 31, 2012

Mr. David Mihalick
Standards Compliance Manager
Eldorado National- California, Inc.
419 West Pike Street, P.O. Box 629
Jackson Center, OH 45334-0629

NVS-215KS
12V-513

Subject: Transit Bus Egress Windows Set: Handle may Break

Dear Mr. Mihalick:

This letter serves to acknowledge Eldorado National- California, Inc.'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:
ELDORADO/AXESS/2011
ELDORADO/E-Z RIDER II MAX/2011

Mfr's Report Date: October 18, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-513

Components:
EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 9

Problem Description:
Eldorado National is recalling certain model year 2011 Axess and EZ Rider II Max buses, manufactured between October 1, 2010 and October 31, 2010 and equipped with Ricon 3-Minute Urban Transit Bus egress window sets. The composition of the material used to cast the handle that opens the egress window is incorrect, resulting in a reduction in material strength. The handle(s) on the emergency egress passenger windows may break before the window latch is released.

Consequence:
In the event that the egress window handle fails during an actual emergency situation, passengers may be trapped in the vehicle placing them at risk of injury.

Remedy:
Eldorado National will notify owners, and dealers will replace the defective handles, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in November 2012. Owners may contact Eldorado National at 1-937-596-7965 for more information.

Notes:
Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

We have received Eldorado'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.

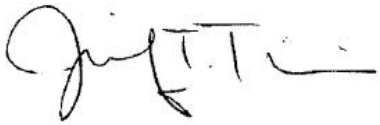
Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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).

It is our understanding that Ricon will be handling the quarterly reporting for this campaign. Please be reminded that as the vehicle manufacturer, Eldorado is ultimately responsible for conducting an adequate safety recall campaign of its vehicles. Accordingly if Ricon's safety recall campaign is not successful, the agency may require Eldorado to conduct a follow-up notification and conduct additional quarterly reporting.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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