# **IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL**

2001-2004 Tribute Subframe Corrosion - Safety Recall 7514D NHTSA Campaign No. 14V-174

May 2014

VIN \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Mazda Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Mazda Motor Corporation has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in 2001-2004 Tributes operated in high corrosion areas for extended periods.

#### If you are a recipient of this notice, your vehicle is included in this recall.

#### What is the problem?

The forward attachment of the lower control arm may separate from the subframe after operating in high corrosion areas (where salt is used on the roadways during winter months) for an extended period of time. Separation of the lower control arm from the subframe may result in diminished vehicle directional control, increasing the risk of a crash.

#### What will Mazda do?

Your Mazda dealer will install a reinforcement crossbrace on the subframe so that steering control can be maintained in the event of a separation of the forward attachment of the lower control arm.

The inspection and repair will be performed free of charge, and will take approximately 30 minutes to complete; however, it may take longer depending on the service workload at your Mazda dealership.

If your dealer determines that subframe replacement is required because the lower control arm is separated, and needs to keep your vehicle overnight, your dealer is authorized to provide a rental vehicle for your personal transportation at no charge (except for fuel) while your vehicle is at the dealership for repairs.

Mazda North American Operations **Technical Services Division** 1444 McGaw Ave. Irvine, CA 92614-5570 www.MazdaUSA.com

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#### What should you do?

Mazda is concerned about your safety. Please contact an authorized Mazda dealer to schedule an appointment to have this recall completed as soon as possible. You do not need to bring this notice to the dealer, but it may assist in the check-in process.

## What if you already paid for subframe replacement due to corrosion?

If you have already paid for subframe replacement *due to subframe breakage caused by corrosion*, prior to receiving this notice, you may be eligible for reimbursement of reasonable repair expenses based on Mazda's repair standards.

Please complete the enclosed "Reimbursement Application Form", include the necessary documentation, and mail it to us in the pre-addressed envelope provided, allowing 6-8 weeks for processing.

#### Where is the closest Mazda dealer?

To locate your nearest Mazda dealer, visit our web site and use our "Locate a Dealer" feature at <u>www.MazdaUSA.com</u> or consult your local yellow pages.

## Moved or no longer own this vehicle?

If you have moved or no longer own your Mazda vehicle, please complete the enclosed prepaid *Information Change Card* as soon as possible. This enables us to update our records and notify the current owner.

# Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

#### Still have questions?

If you have any questions regarding this campaign, please contact our Customer Experience Center at (800) 222-5500, option #6.

If Mazda or its dealers do not repair the defect free of charge and within a reasonable amount of time, you may notify the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to *http://www.safercar.gov*.

We actively work to improve our products and search for solutions to improve your ownership experience. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this recall may have caused you.

Sincerely,

# Mazda North American Operations

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