

Ford Motor Company Ford Customer Service Division P. O. Box 1904 Dearborn, Michigan 48121



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July 2015

* * * IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL * * * (PROGRAMA DE SEGURIDAD IMPORTANTE)

Safety Recall Notice 15S11 / NHTSA Recall 15V-171 Aviso de Revisión de Seguridad 15S11

2012 Explorer

Your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN):

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

Ford Motor Company has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in your vehicle, with the VIN shown above.

We apologize for this situation and want to assure you that, with your assistance, we will correct this condition. Our commitment, together with your dealer, is to provide you with the highest level of service and support.

What is the issue?

On your vehicle, a crack may develop within one or more of the interior door handle assemblies, allowing the handle return spring to become unseated. This may result in a loose interior door handle condition, and/or the interior door handle may not return to the fully closed position.

During a side impact crash, this condition may allow the door latch to open and increase the risk of injury.

What will Ford and your dealer do? Ford Motor Company has authorized your dealer to inspect the interior door handle assemblies. For interior door handles that pass the inspection, your dealer will install reinforcements. For interior door handles that do not pass the inspection, your dealer will install a revised interior door handle. This service will be performed free of charge (parts and labor).

How long will it take? The time needed for this repair is less than one-half day. However, due to service scheduling requirements, your dealer may need your vehicle for a longer period of time. In addition, your vehicle may require an inspection to determine if parts need to be ordered.

What should you do?

Parts are now available. Please call your dealer without delay and request a service date for Recall 15S11. Provide the dealer with the VIN of your vehicle. The VIN is printed near your name at the beginning of this letter.

If you do not already have a servicing dealer, you can access <u>www.Fordowner.com</u> for dealer addresses, maps, and driving instructions.

Ford Motor Company wants you to have this safety recall completed on your vehicle. The vehicle owner is responsible for making arrangements to have the work completed.

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

Have you previously paid for this repair?

If you have previously paid for a repair that addresses the issue described in this letter, you still need to have this recall performed to ensure the correct parts and procedures were used.

You may be eligible for a refund of previously paid repairs. Refunds will only be provided for service related to the replacement of the interior door handle assembly. To verify eligibility and <u>expedite reimbursement</u>, give your paid original receipt to your dealer.

Refund requests may also be sent directly to Ford Motor Company. To request your refund from Ford, send the refund request with all required documentation, including your original repair receipt (no photocopies), to Ford Motor Company at P.O. Box 6251, Dearborn, Michigan 48121-6251. Refund requests mailed to this address may take up to 60 days to process. Your original receipt will be returned to you.

Detailed information regarding eligibility for Ford's reimbursement program and documentation requirements may be obtained by contacting the Ford Customer Relationship Center at 1-866-436-7332.

What if you no longer own this vehicle? If you no longer own this vehicle, and have an address for the current owner, please forward this letter to the new owner.

You received this notice because government regulations require that notification be sent to the last known owner of record. Our records are based primarily on state registration and title data, which indicate that you are the current owner.

Can we assist you further?

If you have difficulties getting your vehicle repaired promptly and without charge, please contact your dealership's Service Manager for assistance.

<u>RETAIL OWNERS</u>: If you still have concerns, please contact the Ford Motor Company Customer Relationship Center at 1-866-436-7332 and one of our representatives will be happy to assist you. For the hearing impaired call 1-800-232-5952 (TDD). Representatives are available Monday through Friday: 8:00AM - 8:00PM (Eastern Time).

If you wish to contact us through the Internet, our address is: www.Fordowner.com.

Para asistencia en Español:

Si necesita ayuda o tiene alguna pregunta, por favor llame al Centro de Relación con Clientes al 1-866-436-7332 y presione 2 para Español.

<u>FLEET OWNERS</u>: If you still have concerns, please contact the Fleet Customer Information Center at 1-800-34-FLEET, Option #3 and one of our representatives will be happy to assist you. Representatives are available Monday through Friday: 8:00AM - 8:00PM (Eastern Time).

Or you may contact us through the Internet at www.fleet.ford.com.

If you are still having difficulty getting your vehicle repaired in a reasonable time or without charge, you may write the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. 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. Reference NHTSA Safety Recall 15V-171.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Ford Customer Service Division