



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

May 23, 2016

Mr. Todd Fronckowiak  
Global Automotive Safety Compliance Office  
Ford Motor Company  
Fairlane Plaza South, Suite 500  
330 Town Center Drive  
Dearborn, MI 48126-2738

NEF-150SM  
16V-247

**Subject:** Air Bag Second Stage may not Inflate Properly

Dear Mr. Fronckowiak:

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/FLEX/2009-2012  
FORD/TAURUS/2008, 2010-2012  
FORD/TAURUS X/2008-2009  
LINCOLN/MKS/2009, 2011  
MERCURY/SABLE/2008

**Mfr's Report Date:** April 25, 2016

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 16V-247

**Components:**

AIR BAGS:FRONTAL

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 695

**Problem Description:**

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling certain model year 2009-2012 Ford Flex, 2008 and 2010-2012 Ford Taurus, 2008-2009 Ford Taurus X, 2008 Mercury Sable, 2009 and 2011 Lincoln MKS vehicles. The driver frontal air bag may improperly inflate during second-stage deployment in the event of a high speed crash. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 208, "Occupant Crash Protection."

**Consequence:**

An improperly inflated air bag increases the risk of injury in the event of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Ford will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and replace the driver's frontal air bag module, as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin on June 13, 2016. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 16C06.

**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](http://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 Sarah Mcshane who may be reached by phone at 202-366-7401, or by email at [sarah.mcshane@dot.gov](mailto:sarah.mcshane@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto: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