



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

December 20, 2017

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

NEF-150JK  
17V-787

**Subject:** Driver Side Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

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/RANGER/2004-2006

**Mfr's Report Date:** December 11, 2017

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 17V-787

**Components:**

AIR BAGS:FRONTAL:DRIVER SIDE INFLATOR MODULE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 361,523

**Problem Description:**

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is superseding a previous recall for certain 2004-2006 Ford Ranger trucks to implement a final repair. Upon deployment of the driver side frontal air bag, excessive internal pressure may cause the inflator to rupture.

**Consequence:**

In the event of a crash necessitating deployment of the driver's frontal air bag, the inflator could rupture with metal fragments striking the vehicle occupants potentially resulting in serious injury or death.

**Remedy:**

Ford will notify owners, and dealers will replace the driver's frontal air bag inflator with an alternate inflator, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin December 26, 2017, and will be launched in phases through the end of March 2018. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 17S42. Note: This recall supersedes recall 16V-036 which was an interim repair. Vehicles that received a replacement air bag inflator under the previous campaign need to return to a dealer to have an alternate inflator installed.

**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 provide a calculated percentage of air bags that are defective.

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 Jennifer Kruger who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-2461, or by email at [jennifer.kruger@dot.gov](mailto:jennifer.kruger@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". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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