



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

March 15, 2018

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  
18V-167

**Subject:** Steering Wheel may Detach

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/FUSION/2014-2018  
LINCOLN/MKZ/2014-2018

**Mfr's Report Date:** March 12, 2018

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 18V-167

**Components:**

STEERING:WHEEL AND HANDLE BAR

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 1,301,986

**Problem Description:**

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling certain 2014-2018 Lincoln MKZ and Ford Fusion vehicles. The steering wheel retaining bolt may loosen allowing the steering wheel to detach while driving.

**Consequence:**

A steering wheel detachment can cause a loss of steering control, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Ford will notify owners, and dealers will replace the steering wheel bolt with a longer bolt, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin April 30, 2018. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 18S08.

**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).

This recall was the subject of a preliminary evaluation, PE17-007, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

We have received Ford'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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

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,



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