



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

May 1, 2019

Lesli Paoletti  
Product Manager  
TransitWorks  
1090 W Wilbeth Rd  
Akron, OH 44314

NEF-150MR  
19V-229

**Subject:** Seat Back may not Stay Upright

Dear Lesli Paoletti:

This letter serves to acknowledge TransitWorks'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/TRANSIT/2015-2019  
FORD/TRANSIT CONNECT/2018  
RAM/PROMASTER/2016

**Mfr's Report Date:** March 22, 2019

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 19V-229

**Components:**

SEATS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 776

**Problem Description:**

TransitWorks is recalling certain 2015-2018 Ford Transit, 2018 Ford Transit Connect, and 2016 Dodge Ram ProMaster vehicles modified to be equipped with Freedman Seating GO-ES seats. When the back seat cushion is rotated from the stowed position to the upright position, the seat cushion may not remain locked into place when under load, such as in a crash or a sudden stop.

**Consequence:**

In the event of a crash, if the seat back moves, the seat occupant has an increased risk of injury.

**Remedy:**

TransitWorks has notified owners and instructed them to contact Freedman seats for a repair kit. The recall began December 19, 2019. Owners may contact TransitWorks customer service at 1-440-759-5558.

**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:

- The percentage of products estimated to contain the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(4)).

Please submit a copy of the owner notification letter that you mailed in December 2018.

Please be reminded:

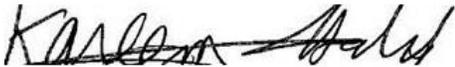
Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are 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 TransitWorks' 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 Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Kareem Habib  
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement