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

December 30, 2019

Mr. Andy Jones Daimler Trucks North America LLC 4747 N. Channel Ave. Portland, OR 97217

Subject: Insufficient Forward Barrier

Dear Mr. Jones:

This letter serves to acknowledge Daimler Trucks North America LLC'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: THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER HDX/2011-2021

Mfr's Report Date: December 17, 2019

NHTSA Campaign Number: 19V-899

**Components:** STRUCTURE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 7,601

## **Problem Description:**

Daimler Trucks North America LLC (DTNA) is recalling certain 2011-2021 Thomas Built Saf-T Liner HDX school buses built with a wall mounted barrier at the first rafter on the passenger side. The forward barrier may not provide sufficient protection. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 222, "School Bus Passenger Seating and Crash Protection."

## **Consequence:**

In the event of a crash, the occupant may come in contact with the barrier, experiencing a higher impact than intended, increasing the risk of injury.

## **Remedy:**

The remedy for this recall is still under development. The recall is expected to begin February 14, 2020. Owners may contact DTNA customer service at 1-800-547-0712. DTNA's number for this recall is FL-843.

## 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.



1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

> NEF-150MR 19V-899

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

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 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,

Joshua Neff Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations Enforcement

