

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

April 20, 2020

Mr. Adrian Diaz Assistant Engineering Director Automotive Safety Office Ford Motor Company 330 Town Center Drive Suite 500/5024 Dearborn, MI 48126

Subject: Belt Tension Sensor Malfunction

Dear Mr. Diaz:

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.

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-150DM

20V-217

#### Makes/Models/Model Years:

FORD/EXPEDITION/2020

Mfr's Report Date: April 16, 2020

NHTSA Campaign Number: 20V-217

**Components:** SEAT BELTS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 1,355

## **Problem Description:**

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling certain 2020 Expedition vehicles. The front passenger seatbelt buckle's Belt Tension Sensor (BTS) may malfunction and may result in the seat occupant being misclassified.

## **Consequence:**

In the event of a crash, the restraint system may not provide the intended level of protection, increasing the risk of injury.

# Remedy:

Ford will notify owners, and dealers will replace the front passenger seatbelt buckle, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin May 11, 2020. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 20S17.

## **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.



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).

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 DeMara Magruder who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-8538, or by email at demara.magruder@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Joshua Neff

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

