

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

December 12, 2022

Mr. J.S. (Jurassic) Park VP/ Chief Safety Officer Kia America, Inc. 111 Peters Canyon Road Irvine, CA 92606-1790 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-107ES 22V-906

Subject: Loss of Steering Control from Cracked Knuckle

Dear Mr. Park:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kia America, Inc.'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:

KIA/FORTE/2023

Mfr's Report Date: December 8, 2022

NHTSA Campaign Number: 22V-906

Components:

STEERING:LINKAGES:KNUCKLE:SPINDLE:ARM

Potential Number of Units Affected: 939

Problem Description:

Kia America, Inc. (Kia) is recalling certain 2023 Forte vehicles. Due to a manufacturing error, the front left steering knuckle may crack, which can result in a loss of steering control.

Consequence:

A loss of steering control increases the risk of a crash.

Remedy

Dealers will inspect and replace the front left steering knuckle, as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed January 12, 2023. Owner may contact Kia customer service at 1-800-333-4542. Kia's number for this recall is SC259.

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.nhtsa.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 eight 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.

Kia America, Inc.'s contact for this recall will be Emily C. Smith who may be reached by email at emily.c.smith@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement

