

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

March 6, 2023

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

**Subject:** Front Axle Pinion Not Heat-Treated

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.

#### Makes/Models/Model Years:

FORD/EXPEDITION/2023 FORD/F-150/2023 LINCOLN/NAVIGATOR/2023

Mfr's Report Date: March 2, 2023

NHTSA Campaign Number: 23V-128

**Components:** 

POWER TRAIN: AXLE ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 240

#### **Problem Description:**

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling certain 2023 F-150, Expedition, and Lincoln Navigator vehicles. The front axle pinion may not have been heat-treated, which can cause it to fracture.

## **Consequence:**

A fractured pinion can result in a loss of 4-wheel drive or cause the front wheels to lock up, increasing the risk of a crash.

# Remedy:

Dealers will replace the front axle pinion gear set. If there is a broken front axle pinion, the entire axle assembly will be replaced. Repairs will be performed free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed April 10, 2023. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 23S07.

### **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.



1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-107DM

23V-128

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.

Ford Motor Company's contact for this recall will be DeMara Magruder who may be reached by email at demara.magruder@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigation

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Enforcement

