

Stacy L. Balzer Operating Director Service Engineering Operations Ford Customer Service Division Ford Motor Company P. O. Box 1904 Dearborn, Michigan 48121

March 1, 2023

**TO:** All U.S. Ford and Lincoln Dealers

SUBJECT: NEW VEHICLE DEMONSTRATION / DELIVERY HOLD - Advance Notice -

Safety Recall 23S07

Certain 2023 Model Year F-150, Expedition and Lincoln Navigator Vehicles

Equipped with 4x4 and 3.73:1 Gear Ratio Axles Front Axle Ring and Pinion Replacement

#### **AFFECTED VEHICLES**

Vehicle	Model Year	Assembly Plant	Build Dates
F-150	2023	Dearborn	January 17, 2023 through January 24, 2023
		Kansas City	January 15, 2023 through January 23, 2023
Expedition		Kentucky Truck	January 15, 2023 through January 26, 2023
Navigator			January 12, 2023 through January 20, 2023

Affected vehicles are identified in OASIS and FSA VIN Lists.

#### **REASON FOR THIS SAFETY RECALL**

In some of the affected vehicles, it's possible the front axle pinion gear was not properly heat treated during the manufacturing process. Pinions that did not receive proper heat treatment may fracture, which may lead to the loss of the 4x4 application with the potential of the front wheels locking up, increasing the risk of a crash.

The failure mode could occur at any time in 4x4 application but is expected to occur primarily while in reverse as the pinion is subject to higher loads.

#### **SERVICE ACTION**

DO NOT DEMONSTRATE OR DELIVER any new in-stock vehicles involved in this safety recall. A complete dealer bulletin will be provided to dealers when parts ordering information and repair instructions are available to support this safety recall.

IMPORTANT: Dealers should open a Repair Order (RO) only when a full dealer bulletin is published. Opening an RO against an Awareness or Advance Notice will result in warranty rejections against a recall.

### **CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION**

Owners of record will be notified via first-class mail after repair instructions and parts ordering information have been provided to dealers.

### **PLEASE NOTE**

Federal law requires dealers to complete this recall service before a new vehicle is delivered to the buyer or lessee. Violation of this requirement by a dealer could result in a civil penalty of up to \$26,315 per vehicle. Correct all vehicles in your new vehicle inventory prior to delivery.

# **DEALER-OPERATED RENTAL VEHICLES**

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act law effective June 2016 prohibits a rental company from selling, renting, or leasing vehicles subject to a safety or compliance recall. Please consult your legal counsel for legal advice.

## **QUESTIONS & ASSISTANCE**

For questions and assistance, contact the Special Service Support Center (SSSC) via the SSSC Web Contact Site. The SSSC Web Contact Site can be accessed through the Professional Technician System (PTS) website using the SSSC link listed at the bottom of the OASIS VIN report screen or listed under the SSSC tab.

Sincerely,

Stacy L. Balzer