



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

**1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590**

October 21, 2025

25V693

Tom Single  
Ford Motor Company  
330 Town Center Drive  
Suite 500  
Dearborn, MI 48126

**Subject:** Reduced Brake Function/FMVSS 135

Dear Tom Single:

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/ESCAPE/2020

**Mfr's Report Date:** October 10, 2025

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 25V693

**Components:**  
SERVICE BRAKES, HYDRAULIC:FOUNDATION COMPONENTS:DISC:PADS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 13,451

**Problem Description:**  
Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling certain 2020 Escape vehicles. The rear brake pads may have been manufactured incorrectly, which can reduce brake function in the event of a brake booster malfunction. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard number 135, "Light Vehicle Brake Systems."

**Consequence:**  
Reduced brake function can require the driver to apply more brake pedal force, and the distance required to stop the vehicle may be extended, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Dealers will replace the front brake pads, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed in October 2025. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 21C31. Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs) involved in this recall became searchable on NHTSA.gov on October 13, 2025. This recall is an expansion of NHTSA recall number 21V922.

**Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-888-275-9171), or go to [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).

We have received Ford's proposed owner notification letter and it is approved for distribution.

**Please be reminded of the following requirements:**

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).

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.

As stated in 49 U.S.C. § 30118(f), submission of eight consecutive quarterly reports followed by three annual reports is required. As described in 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. The first of three consecutive annual status reports will be due on, or before, 1 year after the eighth quarterly report was submitted.

Ford Motor Company's contact for this recall will be Dusty Gardner who may be reached by email at [dusty.gardner@dot.gov](mailto:dusty.gardner@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

*Alex Ansley*

Alex Ansley  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement