

**2023-2025MY K5
C-Pillar Garnish Face Plates
Basis of Safety Defect Determination 573.6(c)(6)**

November 7, 2023	Kia North America (Kia NA) issues Service Action to address potential C-pillar garnish face plate delamination on certain 2023-2024MY K5 vehicles.
May 13, 2025—May 23, 2025	NHTSA’s Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) contacts Kia NA Safety Office regarding four (4) VOQs on 2023-2024MY K5 that allege trim detachment. Kia NA Safety Office reviews and provides its assessment to ODI. No accidents identified. Kia NA Safety Office requests Kia Corporation (Kia HQ) to further evaluate issue.
June 6, 2025	Kia Corporation (Kia HQ) provides Kia NA Safety Office with results of K5 C-pillar garnish face plate evaluation. Evaluation identifies that if the face plate detaches from the C-pillar garnish assembly, it falls quickly to the ground, does not bounce, and lays flat. Kia NA Safety Office reviews and determines this issue does not present an unreasonable risk to motor vehicle safety due to the weight, size, and behavior of the face plate if it falls.
July 2, 2025	In further discussion with ODI, ODI provides Kia NA Safety Office with recent precedent on external trim detachment recalls. Kia NA Safety Office begins to reassess this issue.
July 18, 2025	Kia NA Safety Office completes data analysis across all Kia field data sources and finds 4,082 unique reports of potentially missing C-pillar garnish face plates on 2023-2025MY K5 vehicles [dates of receipt 7/20/2023—7/16/2025].
July 21, 2025	Kia NA decides to recall certain 2023-2025MY K5 vehicles. No crashes or injuries.