



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

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

March 12, 2026

26V135

J.S. (Jurassic) Park  
Kia America, Inc.  
111 Peters Canyon Road  
Irvine, CA 92606-1790

**Subject:** Rear Seat Belt Buckle May Not Latch

Dear J.S. (Jurassic) 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/K4/2026  
KIA/TELLURIDE/2027

**Mfr's Report Date:** March 06, 2026

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 26V135

**Components:**

SEAT BELTS:REAR/OTHER:ANCHORAGE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 14,870

**Problem Description:**

Kia America, Inc (Kia) is recalling certain 2027 Kia Telluride and 2026 Kia K4 vehicles. The rear center seat belt anchor buckle in the 2026 K4 and the third-row center seat belt anchor buckle in the 2027 Telluride may not latch properly.

**Consequence:**

A seat belt buckle that is not latched properly can fail to restrain an occupant in a crash, increasing the risk of injury.

**Remedy:**

Dealers will inspect and replace the anchor buckle assembly, as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed May 5, 2026. Owners may contact Kia at 1-800-333-4542.

Kia's number for this recall is SC364. Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs) involved in this recall will become searchable on NHTSA.gov beginning March 20, 2026.

**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).

**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 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.

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

Sincerely,

*Alex Ansley*

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