



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

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

March 25, 2026

26V163

John Kobylarz
Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC
100 Jaguar Land Rover Way
Mahwah, NJ 07495

Subject: Insufficiently Welded Seat Belt Anchorage Bracket

Dear John Kobylarz:

This letter serves to acknowledge Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC'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:

LAND ROVER/DEFENDER/2026

Mfr's Report Date: March 18, 2026

NHTSA Campaign Number: 26V163

Components:

SEAT BELTS:CRITICAL FASTENERS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 498

Problem Description:

Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC (Land Rover) is recalling certain 2026 Land Rover Defender vehicles. The third-row lower seat belt anchorage bracket may have an insufficient weld stud.

Consequence:

A seat belt assembly with an insufficient weld may not properly restrain an occupant during a crash, increasing the risk of injury.

Remedy:

Dealers will replace the third-row lower seat belt anchorage bracket, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed May 15, 2026. Owners may contact Land Rover's customer service at 800-637-6837. Land Rover's number for this recall is D098.

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.

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.

Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC's contact for this recall will be Debora Crews who may be reached by email at debora.crews@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

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