



U.S. Department of Transportation

**National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

June 17, 2026

26V377

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

**Subject:** Steering Wheel Hands-Off Detection Alerts May Fail

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:**

LINCOLN/NAUTILUS/2019

**Mfr's Report Date:** June 09, 2026

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 26V377

**Components:**

LANE DEPARTURE: LANE KEEP: STEERING ASSIST

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 1,013

**Problem Description:**

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling certain 2019 Lincoln Nautilus vehicles previously repaired incorrectly under recall number 19V031. The lane center assist system may not adequately detect if a driver has their hands off the steering wheel for a prolonged period of time.

**Consequence:**

Failure to alert the driver with the intended hands-off the wheel warnings may increase the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Dealers will update the power steering control module software, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed July 6, 2026. Owners may contact customer service at 1-866-436-



7332. Ford's number for this recall is 26S44. Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs) involved in this recall will become searchable on NHTSA.gov on July 6, 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.

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