



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

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

July 28, 2026

26V479

Brad Fisher
ARBOC Specialty Vehicles, LLC
51165 Greenfield Parkway
Middlebury, IN 46540

Subject: Rear Spring Hanger May Detach

Dear Brad Fisher:

This letter serves to acknowledge ARBOC Specialty Vehicles, 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:

ARBOC/SPIRIT OF INDEPENDENCE/2017-2026

Mfr's Report Date: July 24, 2026

NHTSA Campaign Number: 26V479

Components:

SUSPENSION:REAR:SPRINGS:LEAF SPRING ASSEMBLY:HANGER/BRACKET
SUSPENSION:CRITICAL FASTENERS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 502

Problem Description:

ARBOC Specialty Vehicles, LLC (ARBOC) is recalling certain 2017-2026 Spirit of Independence transit buses. The wrong size washers may have been installed on the rear spring hanger bolts.

Consequence:

The rear spring hanger may detach from the frame, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Dealers will install the correct washers, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed September 18, 2026. Owners may contact ARBOC customer service at 1-866-953-5555.



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.

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.

ARBOC Specialty Vehicles, LLC's contact for this recall will be Hensly Guerra who may be reached by email at hensly.guerra1@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

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