



Service Engineering Operations  
Customer Service Division

Ford Motor Company  
PO Box 1904  
Dearborn, Michigan 48121

February 23, 2026

**TO:** All U.S. Ford and Lincoln Dealers

**SUBJECT:** **NEW VEHICLE DEMONSTRATION / DELIVERY HOLD**  
**Safety Recall 26S01**  
Certain 2013-2019 Model Year Escape, 2013-2018 Model Year Focus and 2015-2016 Model Year MKC Vehicles Equipped with a 2.0L Engine and Engine Block Heater System  
Block Heater Element Replacement

**REF:** **NEW VEHICLE DEMONSTRATION / DELIVERY HOLD - Advance Notice**  
**Safety Recall 26S01**  
Dated January 14, 2026

**AFFECTED VEHICLES (U.S. Population Of Affected Vehicles 117,133):**

Vehicle	Model Year	Assembly Plant	Build Date Range
Escape	2013-2019	Louisville	October 7, 2011 through August 2, 2019
Focus	2013-2018	Michigan	February 14, 2012 through May 4, 2018
MKC	2015-2016	Louisville	February 25, 2014 through March 19, 2016

Affected vehicles are identified in OASIS and FSA VIN Lists.

**REASON FOR THIS SAFETY RECALL**

In some of the affected vehicles, the engine block heater may develop a coolant leak through its element pins which could cause a resistive short circuit while the engine block heater system is plugged in. A short circuit in the engine block heater increases the risk of an underhood fire. **To reduce the risk of an underhood fire, customers should refrain from plugging in vehicle engine block heater systems until the safety recall remedy repair is completed.**

**SERVICE ACTION**

Before demonstrating or delivering any new in-stock vehicles involved in this recall, dealers are to remove the block heater element and install a threaded plug, and store the power cable in the vehicle's trunk compartment for use when a new block heater is installed under future Customer Satisfaction Program 26B01. **Dealers will also inform customers and have them sign a feature disabled acknowledgement form.** This service must be performed on all affected vehicles at no charge to the vehicle owner. For new vehicle storage guidelines, refer to EFC13033, Storage Guidelines for New Vehicles.

## **FSA PROGRAM OPTIONS**

<b>Program Option</b>	<b>Eligibility</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Mobile Repair	No	See <b>Mobile Service Repair Assessment Level</b> section below, if applicable.
Over-the-Air (OTA) Update	No	See <b>Over-The-Air (OTA) Updates</b> section of the FSA Policy Document, if applicable.
Rentals	No	See the <b>Rental Vehicles</b> section below, if applicable.
Alternative Transportation Available	No	See <b>Alternate Transportation</b> section in the FSA Policy Document.
Pickup & Delivery (PDL)	Yes	See <b>Pickup &amp; Delivery</b> section in the FSA Policy document.
Towing	No	See <b>Towing</b> section below, if applicable.
Essential Special Service Tools (ESST)	No	See <b>Technical Instructions</b> and/or <b>Workshop Manual (WSM)</b> as needed.
Administrative Allowance	No	See <b>Administrative Allowance</b> section in FSA Policy Document, and if applicable, <b>Labor Allowances</b> table below.
Owner Refunds	Yes	See <b>Owner Refunds</b> section below, if applicable.
Photo Submission	No	See <b>Repair Photo Submission</b> section below, if applicable.

**Note:** For further information on certain Program Options above, see the corresponding section within the FSA Policy Document.

## **OWNER NOTIFICATION MAILING SCHEDULE**

Owner letters are expected to be mailed the week of March 2, 2026 or sooner. Dealers should repair any affected vehicles that arrive at their dealerships, whether or not the customer has received a letter.

## **PLEASE NOTE**

**Federal law requires dealers to complete this recall service before a new vehicle is delivered to the buyer or lessee. Violation of this requirement by a dealer could result in a civil penalty of up to \$27,168 per vehicle. Correct all vehicles in your new vehicle inventory before delivery.**

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- Technical Instructions
- Owner Notification Letters
- Vehicle Pick-Up & Delivery Record
- Vehicle Feature Customer Acknowledgement Form
- Power Cable Storage Alert printout

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

- Warranty & Policy Manual (located on FMCDealer Warranty Portal Page):  
[www.fmcdealer.dealerconnection.com/content/fmcdealer/us/en/parts\\_service/wty.html](http://www.fmcdealer.dealerconnection.com/content/fmcdealer/us/en/parts_service/wty.html)
- FSA Policy Document (located on FMCDealer FSA Resources Page for Ford and Lincoln dealerships):  
[www.fmcdealer.dealerconnection.com/content/fmcdealer/us/en/parts\\_service/fsa/rsc.html](http://www.fmcdealer.dealerconnection.com/content/fmcdealer/us/en/parts_service/fsa/rsc.html)
- FSA Policy Document (located on the Fleet SharePoint site for Fleets with in-house warranty):  
<https://azureford.sharepoint.com/sites/OneWarrantySolution/usfleet/SitePages/Home.aspx>

## **QUESTIONS & ASSISTANCE**

For questions and assistance, contact the Special Service Support Center (SSSC) via the SSSC Web Contact Site. The SSSC Web Contact Site can be accessed through the Professional Technician System (PTS) website using the SSSC link listed at the bottom of the OASIS VIN report screen or listed under the SSSC tab.

Customer Service Division

**Safety Recall 26S01****MOBILE SERVICE REPAIR ASSESSMENT LEVEL**

- Ⓢ - Not a Mobile Service Repair (MRA5)

**OASIS ACTIVATION**

OASIS was activated on January 14, 2026.

**FSA VIN LISTS ACTIVATION**

FSA VIN Lists will be available through <https://web.fsavinlists.dealerconnection.com> on February 23, 2026. Owner names and addresses will be available by March 20, 2026.

**NOTE:** Your FSA VIN Lists may contain owner names and addresses obtained from motor vehicle registration records. The use of such motor vehicle registration data for any purpose other than in connection with this recall is a violation of law in several states, provinces, and countries. Accordingly, you must limit the use of this listing to the follow-up necessary to complete this recall.

**SOLD VEHICLES**

- Ford has not issued instructions to stop selling/delivering or driving used vehicles under this safety recall. Owners should contact their dealers for an appointment to have their vehicles remedied as soon as practicable.
- Immediately contact any of your affected customers whose vehicles are not on your VIN list but are identified in OASIS. Give the customer a copy of the Owner Notification Letter (when available) and schedule a service date.
- Correct other affected vehicles identified in OASIS which are brought to your dealership.
- Dealers are to prioritize repairs of customer vehicles over repairs of new and used vehicle inventory.

**STOCK VEHICLES**

- Correct all affected units in your new vehicle inventory before delivery.
- Use OASIS to identify any affected vehicles in your used vehicle inventory.

**DEALER-OPERATED RENTAL VEHICLES**

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act law effective June 2016 prohibits a rental company from selling, renting, or leasing vehicles subject to a safety or compliance recall. Please consult your legal counsel for legal advice.

**BRANDED / SALVAGED TITLE VEHICLES**

Affected branded / salvaged title vehicles are eligible for this recall.

**OWNER REFUNDS**

- **This Safety Recall must still be performed, even if the owner has paid for a previous repair. Claiming a refund will not close the recall on the vehicle.**
- Ford Motor Company is offering a refund for owner-paid repairs covered by this recall if the repair was performed before the date indicated in the reimbursement plan, which is posted with this bulletin. Owners are directed to seek reimbursement through authorized dealers or, at their option, directly through Ford Motor Company at PO Box 6251, Dearborn, MI 48121-6251.
- Dealers are also pre-approved to refund owner-paid emergency repairs that were performed away from an authorized servicing dealer after the end date specified in the reimbursement plan. Non-covered repairs, or those judged by Ford to be excessive, will not be reimbursed.
- Refunds will only be provided for the cost associated with engine block heaters.

**Safety Recall 26S01****RENTAL VEHICLES**

Rental vehicles are not approved for this program.

**ADDITIONAL REPAIR (LABOR TIME AND/OR PARTS)**

Additional repairs identified as necessary to complete the FSA should be managed as follows:

- For related damage and access time requirements, refer to the Warranty and Policy Manual / Section 6 – Ford & Lincoln Program Policies / General Information & Special Circumstances for FSAs / Related Damage.
- **For vehicles within new vehicle bumper-to-bumper warranty coverage, no SSSC approval is required**, although related damage must be on a separate repair line with the “Related Damage” radio button checked.
  - Ford vehicles – 3 years or 36,000 miles
  - Lincoln vehicles – 4 years or 50,000 miles
- **For vehicles outside new vehicle bumper-to-bumper warranty coverage:**
  - Submit an Approval Request to the SSSC Web Contact Site before completing the repair.
- See “Additional Repair Info” in the FSA Policy Document for further Terms and Conditions.

**CLAIMS PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION**

- **Technician Competency Requirement:** The STST Competency 10 certification requirement in the U.S. market only will be enforced starting with repair orders opened on or after August 31, 2024. FSA repairs will be rejected, and the claim will not be paid if the repairing technician is not certified in STST Competency 10 FSA. See EFC15936 for more details.
- **Claim Entry:** Enter claims using Dealer Management System (DMS) or One Warranty Solution (OWS) online.
  - When entering claims, select claim type **31**: Field Service Action. The FSA number 26S01 is the subcode.
  - For additional claims preparation and submission information, refer to the Recall and Customer Satisfaction Program (CSP) Repairs in the OWS User Guide.
- **Related Damage/Additional labor and/or parts:** Must be claimed as Related Damage on a separate repair line from the FSA with the same claim type and subcode as described in Claim Entry above.

**IMPORTANT:** Click the Related Damage Indicator radio button.

- **Refunds:** Submit refunds on a separate repair line.
  - Program Code: 26S01
  - Misc. Expense: ADMIN
  - Misc. Expense: REFUND
  - Misc. Expense: 0.2 Hrs.
  - Multiple refunds should be submitted on one repair line and the invoice details for each repair should be detailed in the comments section of the claim.
- **Provision for Locally Obtained Supplies:** Includes allowance for topping off engine coolant if needed. Submit on the same line as the repair.
  - Program Code: 26S01
  - Misc. Expense: OTHER
- Misc. Expense: Claim up to \$3.00

**Safety Recall 26S01**

**LABOR ALLOWANCES: These labor operations close the FSA**

Description	Labor Operation	Labor Time Hour(s)
<b>Escape - 2.0L</b> Remove block heater element, install threaded plug, store power cable in trunk of vehicle. Includes filling and bleeding cooling system.	MT26S01B	Up To 1.3
<b>Focus – 2.0L</b> Remove block heater element, install threaded plug, store power cable in trunk of vehicle. Includes filling and bleeding cooling system.	MT26S01C	Up To 1.3
<b>MKC – 2.0L</b> Remove block heater element, install threaded plug, store power cable in trunk of vehicle. Includes filling and bleeding cooling system.	MT26S01D	Up To 1.3

**SUPPLEMENTAL LABOR ALLOWANCES: These labor operation codes DO NOT close the FSA.**

Description	Labor Operation	Labor Time Hour(s)
<b>Lincoln Vehicle Pick-Up &amp; Delivery Allowance:</b> <b>This allowance is only for <u>non-eligible</u> 2026 Remote Experience Program Dealers AND vehicles <u>outside</u> of Lincoln Pick-Up &amp; Delivery contract coverage of 4 years/50,000 miles.</b> <b>NOTE:</b> This allowance is for dealer-performed vehicle Pick-Up & Delivery for dealership repairs only. Can only be claimed once, regardless of outstanding FSAs repaired.	26S01LL	0.5
<b>Ford Vehicle Pick-Up &amp; Delivery Allowance:</b> <b>This allowance is only for <u>non-eligible</u> 2026 Remote Experience Program Dealers.</b> <b>NOTE:</b> This allowance is for dealer-performed vehicle Pick-Up & Delivery for dealership repairs only. Can only be claimed once, regardless of outstanding FSAs repaired.	26S01PP	0.5

**PARTS REQUIREMENTS / ORDERING INFORMATION**

Service Part Number	Claim Quantity	Package Order Quantity	Number in Package	Description
W701548-S437	1	1	4	Threaded Plug

Order your parts through normal order processing channels. To guarantee the shortest delivery time, an emergency order for parts must be placed.

**DEALER PRICE**

For the latest prices, refer to DOES II.

**PARTS RETENTION, RETURN, & SCRAPPING**

Please refer to the FSA Policy Document for any and all questions on parts.

**Safety Recall 26S01**

**EXCESS STOCK RETURN**

Please refer to the FSA Policy Document for any and all questions on parts.

**REPLACED FSA PARTS INSPECTION AND SIGN OFF**

Please refer to the FSA Policy Document for any and all questions on parts.

## CERTAIN 2013-2019 MODEL YEAR ESCAPE, 2013-2018 MODEL YEAR FOCUS, 2015-2016 MODEL YEAR MKC VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH A 2.0L ENGINE AND AN ENGINE BLOCK HEATER SYSTEM — BLOCK HEATER ELEMENT REPLACEMENT

### SERVICE PROCEDURE

**IMPORTANT!** The Service Technician Specialty Training (STST) Competency 10 certification requirement, in the U.S. market only, will be enforced starting with repair orders opened on or after August 31, 2024. Field Service Action (FSA) repairs will reject and the claim will not be paid if the repairing technician is not certified in STST Competency 10 FSA. See Electronic Field Communication (EFC) 15936 for more details.

1. Remove and discard the engine block heater. Follow the Workshop Manual (WSM) procedures in Section 303-03.
2. Install the threaded plug into the engine block heater location.

- Torque to: 53 lb.ft (72 Nm).

**NOTE:** The engine block heater power cable will be reused once parts become available, use care when releasing the block heater power cable retainers.

3. Remove the engine block heater power cable.
4. Wrap up the engine block heater power cable with the provided label which can be found as an attachment on PTS.
5. Store the engine block heater power cable in the trunk compartment.
6. Reassemble the vehicle by reversing the removal procedure.
7. Fill and bleed the cooling system. Follow the WSM procedures in Section 303-03.
8. Print out the Vehicle Feature Customer Acknowledgment form and have the customer review and sign. This signed form is to be kept with the vehicle's sales jacket or attached to the repair order.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Federal law prohibits selling motor vehicle parts or components that are under safety, compliance, or emissions recall. Unless a part is requested to be returned to Ford, all parts replaced under this FSA must be scrapped in accordance with all applicable local, state and federal environmental protection and hazardous material regulations. Refer to the Parts Retention, Return, & Scrapping section of the FSA dealer bulletin for further information.



**Safety Recall 26S01**  
**Vehicle Pickup and Delivery Record**

VIN \_\_\_\_\_ received:

Pickup and/or delivery service

As outlined below for the 26S01 Field Service Action program.

Pickup      – Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Delivery      – Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Repair Order #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Repair Order Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Service Manager Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Vehicle Feature Customer Acknowledgement

Subject: Block Heater Feature Disabled

Dear Valued Customer:

With your safety in mind, the engine block heater system on your vehicle has been disabled due to the safety concern currently being addressed by Safety Recall 26S01 that impacts this vehicle.

Please know that we value you as a customer and we apologize for the inconvenience this situation causes. We are working on a solution to restore the availability of this feature. The restoration of the feature will involve a new block heater element being installed on your vehicle free of charge when this part becomes available under forthcoming Customer Satisfaction Program 26B01 in Q3 2026. Your vehicle is automatically included in this program.

Until that time, please note that the power cable for your block heater system has been placed in your vehicle's trunk storage.

### Acknowledgement

By providing my signature below, I acknowledge and understand that this vehicle's block heater feature is currently disabled, and I agree that this does not constitute a defect with respect to my vehicle.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dealer Representative Printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Customer Name Printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
(VIN)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Customer Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**NOTE:** This signed document is to be stored by dealer along with this VIN's other sales documentation



**WARNING — DO NOT DISCARD! — NEEDS REINSTALL  
UNDER PENDING CUSTOMER SATISFACTION FSA**

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