

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

October 6, 2009

MR. CHRIS SANTUCCI ASSISTANT MANAGER TECHNICAL & REGULATORY AFFAIRS TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC. 601 THIRTEENTH STREET, NW., SUITE 910 SOUTH WASHINGTON, DC 20005 NVS-215dgl 09V-388

# SUBJECT: FLOOR MAT INTERFERENCE WITH ACCELERATOR PEDAL

DEAR MR. SANTUCCI:

This letter serves to acknowledge Toyota Motor Corporation's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to Federal law.

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:

LEXUS/ES350/2007-2010 LEXUS/IS/2006-2010 TOYOTA/AVALON/2005-2010 TOYOTA/CAMRY/2007-2010 TOYOTA/PRIUS/2004-2009 TOYOTA/TACOMA/2005-2010 TOYOTA/TUNDRA/2007-2010

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-388

Mfg's Report Date: October 5, 2009

Components: VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL: ACCELERATOR PEDAL

Potential Number of Units Affected: 3.8M

#### Summary:

TOYOTA IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2004-2010 PASSENGER VEHICLES. THE ACCELERATOR PEDAL CAN GET STUCK IN THE WIDE OPEN POSITION DUE TO ITS BEING TRAPPED BY AN UNSECURED OR INCOMPATIBLE DRIVER'S FLOOR MAT.

### **Consequence:**

A STUCK OPEN ACCELERATOR PEDAL MAY RESULT IN VERY HIGH VEHICLE SPEEDS AND MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO STOP THE VEHICLE, WHICH COULD CAUSE A CRASH, SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

## **Remedy:**

TOYOTA WILL NOTIFY OWNERS OF AFFECTED VEHICLES TO REMOVE ANY DRIVER'S FLOOR MAT AND NOT REPLACE IT WITH ANY OTHER FLOOR MAT PENDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF MODEL-SPECIFIC REMEDIES. TOYOTA WILL MAIL A SECOND NOTIFICATION TO OWNERS OF AFFECTED VEHICLES NOTIFYING THEM OF THE FREE REMEDY WHEN IT IS AVAILABLE. THE FIRST NOTICE IS EXPECTED TO BE MAILED DURING OCTOBER 2009 AND TOYOTA WILL ADVISE NHTSA AN ESTIMATE OF THE DATE WHEN THE REMEDY PARTS WILL BE AVAILABLE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT TOYOTA AT 1-800-331-4331, LEXUS AT 1-800-255-3987.

## Notes:

OWNERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO <u>HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV</u>.

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

Please provide the following additional information and 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).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six 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.

Your contact for this recall will be Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at <u>Delia.lopez@dot.gov</u>, or through the office email at <u>RMD.ODI@dot.gov</u>. We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

George H. Person Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigation Enforcement