

Products Liability Law Daily Wrap Up, NHTSA NEWS—ODI INVESTIGATIONS—Recall Query opened to assess remedy in Ford recalls, (Jan. 9, 2020)

Products Liability Law Daily Wrap Up

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By Colleen Kave, J.D.

Ford Fiesta, Fusion, and Lincoln MKZ vehicles were recalled for door latch defect.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) opened a Recall Query (RQ) to assess the effectiveness of Ford Motor Company's safety recalls 15V246 and 17V210, addressing the latch pawl spring tab in Ford Fiesta, Fusion, and Lincoln MKZ vehicles (*NHTSA ODI Investigation*, No. [RQ19-005](#), December 19, 2019).

In April 2015, Ford issued safety recall 15V246 to remedy the latch pawl spring tab of approximately 336,873 model year 2012-2014 Fiesta, 2013-2014 Fusion, and 2013-2014 Lincoln MKZ vehicles manufactured between February 1, 2012, and May 31, 2013. The recall was in response to the ODI investigation EA15-002, which concluded the latch pawl spring tab can break, potentially causing the door to open while driving. In March 2017, Ford issued safety recall 17V210, expanding the population from recall 15V246 by approximately 191,432 model year 2014 Fiesta, 2013-2014 Fusion, and 2013-2014 Lincoln MKZ vehicles manufactured between June 1, 2013, and October 31, 2013.

ODI has received 109 complaints alleging incidents of doors opening while driving in the subject vehicles. Many of the complaints occurred on vehicles that were included in the populations of recalls 15V246 and 17V210. In addition, ODI has received multiple complaints on vehicles that fall outside the recall population. ODI has received two complaints alleging minor injuries due to the door opening while driving, and one complaint alleging debris exiting the vehicle on the freeway. This recall query will assess the scope and remedy for recalls 15V246 and 17V210.

Companies: Ford Motor Company

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