

INFORMATION Redacted PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(B)(6)

U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

August 25, 2017

Tucson, AZ

Dear

NEF-109 Ref. No. 10923921

Thank you for your correspondence that was referred to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA), Office of Defects Investigation regarding your model year 2013 Toyota Aris. Last year our office received an unprecedented increase in the number of correspondence due to the Takata air bag recalls. Our limited resources were overwhelmed and we are now just getting to your letter. We regret any inconvenience this delay may have caused you.

NHTSA is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. We also monitor the adequacy of manufacturers' recall campaigns. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, we look carefully at the body of consumer complaints and other available data to determine whether a defect trend may exist. We do not have authority to act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

The information you provided will be reviewed and entered into our database. It will be considered with other reports to identify recall inadequacies or safety-related defect trends that require our attention. The NHTSA investigation and recall process can be located on our web site at www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallprocess.cfm.

On August 20, 2014, we added a new feature to our web site that will allow consumers to search for open recalls by using their vehicle identification number (VIN). The free VIN look-up tool (<u>https://vinrcl.safercar.gov/vin/</u>), searches for open recalls via a direct connection to the manufacturer's database. The VIN can be found on the door label, insurance card, or lower left corner of your windshield. Then enter VIN into the VIN search box on our web site above. If you have any open recalls, you will know immediately.

Should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment in the future, we would appreciate it if you would complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq or call the Auto Safety Hotline at 888 327-4236. Also, a summary listing of vehicle owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc. can be obtained at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems.

Sincerely,

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Randy Reid, Chief Correspondence Research Division Office of Defects Investigation Enforcement