

U.S. Department of Transportation

# National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

November 8, 2017

Mr. Wesley Chestnut Smeal Holding LLC 1541 Reynolds Road Charlotte, MI 48813

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-150KS 17V-656

Subject: Cracks in Frame Causing Instability

Dear Mr. Chestnut:

This letter serves to acknowledge Smeal Holding 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:

SMEAL/AERIAL/2010-2017

Mfr's Report Date: October 16, 2017

NHTSA Campaign Number: 17V-656

### **Components:**

STRUCTURE:FRAME AND MEMBERS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 74

## **Problem Description:**

Smeal Holding, Inc. (Smeal) is recalling certain 2010-2017 Aerial Fire Apparatus vehicles. The torque frame may crack at the notched area.

### **Consequence:**

A cracked frame may cause the aerial device to be unstable, increasing the risk of injury.

### Remedy:

Smeal will notify owners, and dealers will repair the cracks and add a reinforcement, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin December 8, 2017. Owners may contact Smeal customer service at 1-800-543-5008. Smeal's number for this recall is 17024.

#### Notes

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.



We have received Smeal's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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 required in Part 573.6(c)(6), in the case of a defect, please provide a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt. Please provide this information as soon as possible.

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 Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Timian

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

