



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 4, 2018

Mr. John Gore
Garden State Bus Group
1000 Stanley Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11208

NEF-150MR
18V-519

Subject: Incorrect Location of Emergency Exit/FMVSS 217

Dear Mr. Gore:

This letter serves to acknowledge Garden State Bus Group'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:

GARDEN STATE/DOUBLE DECK BUS/2015

Mfr's Report Date: August 6, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V-519

Components:

STRUCTURE:BODY:DOOR/WINDOW:EMERGENCY EXIT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 20

Problem Description:

Garden State Bus Group (Garden State) is recalling certain 2015 Garden State Double Deck Buses. The roof emergency exit may be incorrectly located towards the center of the passenger compartment and not in the rear, as required. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 217, "Bus Emergency Exits and Window Retention and Release."

Consequence:

If the emergency exit is located in the wrong location, it can cause a delay in exiting the vehicle in the event of an emergency, increasing the risk of injury.

Remedy:

Garden State will notify owners, and dealers will install an additional emergency exit hatch in the rear portion of the lower level that opens to the upper level, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Garden State customer service at 1-888-800-3779.

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.

You are required to notify the current owners of the affected buses to inform them of the recall. Third party companies such as Polk can search State registration data to identify the owners if you provide them with the VINs.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

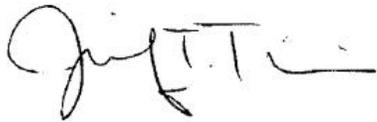
You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification 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).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is required that owners be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.

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 Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@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