

October 1, 2018

Mr. Greg Gunther Department Manager VCA Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC. 13470 International Parkway Jacksonville, FL 32218

Subject: Insufficient Limitation of Front Passenger Seat

Dear Mr. Gunther:

This letter serves to acknowledge Mercedes-Benz USA, 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: MERCEDES BENZ/E63S AMG/2018

Mfr's Report Date: September 11, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V-609

**Components:** SEATS:FRONT ASSEMBLY:POWER ADJUST

Potential Number of Units Affected: 22

## **Problem Description:**

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) is recalling certain 2018 Mercedes-Benz E63S AMG 4MATIC vehicles. The front passenger seat can be adjusted beyond its intended limit.

## **Consequence:**

If the passenger seat is adjusted beyond its intended limit, the occupant may have an increased risk of injury in the event of a crash.

## **Remedy:**

MBUSA will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the adjustment range, and if needed, install a mechanical adjustment range limitation or update the seat control unit software, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin October 19, 2018. Owners may contact MBUSA customer service at 1-800-367-6372.

## 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.



1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

> NEF-150JK 18V-609

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).

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.

The chronology information in your report is confusing. The production dates of the affected vehicles are June 2, 2017 through August 3, 2017, but the chronology states that in February 2017 a software correction was made and in March 2017 the seat adjustment range was mechanically limited. How are vehicles produced months later the ones that are affected? Please amend your filing to better explain the timing of events.

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 Jennifer Kruger who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-2461, or by email at jennifer.kruger@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

