



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 4, 2018

Mr. James Brown
Manager Customer Service/Warranty
Great Dane Trailers
PO Box 67
Savannah, GA 31402

NEF-150MR
18V-825

Subject: Rear Impact Guards too Narrow/FMVSS 223

Dear Mr. Brown:

This letter serves to acknowledge Great Dane Trailers'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:
GREAT DANE/FREEDOM/2019

Mfr's Report Date: November 21, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V-825

Components:
STRUCTURE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 102

Problem Description:

Great Dane Trailers (Great Dane) is recalling certain 2019 Great Dane Freedom Combo Drop Deck Platform trailers. The rear impact guards on these vehicles may be too narrow. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 223, "Rear Impact Guards."

Consequence:

If the rear impact guards do not meet the width requirements, the guards may not prevent a vehicle from going under the trailer in the event of a rear impact, increasing the risk of injury.

Remedy:

Great Dane will notify owners, and dealers will install a set of rear impact guard extensions, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in December 2018. Owners may contact Great Dane customer service at 1-877-369-3493.

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.

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

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).

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. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Timian", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement