



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

**1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590**

July 23, 2020

Mr. Adrian Diaz  
Assistant Engineering Director Automotive Safety Office  
Ford Motor Company  
330 Town Center Drive  
Suite 500/5024  
Dearborn, MI 48126

NEF-150DM  
20V-415

**Subject:** Side Curtain Air Bags May Not Properly Inflate

Dear Mr. Diaz:

This letter serves to acknowledge Ford Motor Company'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:**

FORD/ESCAPE/2020  
FORD/TRANSIT/2020

**Mfr's Report Date:** July 17, 2020

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 20V-415

**Components:**

AIR BAGS:SIDE/WINDOW

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 68

**Problem Description:**

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling certain 2020 Escape and Transit vehicles. The affected vehicles may have an improperly crimped diffuser in the side curtain air bags which may result in the diffuser detaching from the inflator in the event of an air bag deployment.

**Consequence:**

In the event of a crash, if the diffuser detaches from the inflator during air bag deployment, the curtain air bag may not inflate properly, increasing the risk of injury.

**Remedy:**

Ford will notify owners, and dealers will replace the side curtain air bag modules, free of charge. An interim letter notifying owners of the safety risk will be mailed August 3, 2020. A second letter will be sent once parts are available, which is expected to be in September 2020. Owners may contact Ford's customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 20S35.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

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

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 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 DeMara Magruder who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-8538, or by email at [demara.magruder@dot.gov](mailto:demara.magruder@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Joshua Neff  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement