



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

March 18, 2021

Mr. J.S. (Jurassic) Park
VP/ Chief Safety Officer
Kia Motors America
111 Peters Canyon Road
Irvine, CA 92606-1790

NEF-107JK
21V-164

Subject: Occupant Detection System Malfunction/FMVSS 208

Dear Mr. Park:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kia Motors America'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:

KIA/FORTE/2021
KIA/K5/2021
KIA/TELLURIDE/2021

Mfr's Report Date: March 11, 2021

NHTSA Campaign Number: 21V-164

Components:

AIR BAGS: AIR BAG/RESTRAINT CONTROL MODULE
AIR BAGS:SENSOR:OCCUPANT CLASSIFICATION:FRONT PASSENGER

Potential Number of Units Affected: 142

Problem Description:

Kia Motors America (Kia) is recalling certain 2021 Telluride, K5, and Forte vehicles. The Occupant Classification and Detection System (OCS/ODS) unit may not detect the presence of a child restraint system in the front passenger seat. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 208, "Occupant Crash Protection."

Consequence:

In the event of a crash, deployment of the front passenger air bag, with a child in that seat, can increase the risk of injury to the child.

Remedy:

Kia will notify owners, and dealers will replace the OCS/ODS unit, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in March 2021. Owners may contact Kia customer service at 1-800-333-4542. Kia's number for this recall is SC207.

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 Kia's proposed owner notification letter and approved it for distribution.

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).

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.

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.

Kia Motors America's contact for this recall will be Jennifer Kruger who may be reached by email at jennifer.kruger@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement