2012-2013MY Optima Headliner Plate Basis of Safety Defect Determination 573.6(c)(6)

May 9, 2022	Kia America, Inc. (KUS) Legal department receives product liability lawsuit alleging a metal bracket injuring a driver during the deployment of the side curtain airbag in a 2012MY Optima (QF) produced at Kia Georgia and equipped with a panoramic sunroof.
May 12-June 16, 2022	KUS Legal notifies Kia North America (Kia NA) Safety Office of lawsuit. KUS Legal works with plaintiff's counsel to schedule vehicle inspection.
June 29, 2022	Kia NA Safety Office engineers inspect the subject 2012MY Optima. Driver's side headliner plate is found in occupant compartment and concludes headliner plate may have potentially detached from headliner during deployment of the side curtain airbag.
July 7, 2022	Kia NA Safety Office reviews engineer's inspection findings and provides inspection photos and preliminary findings to Kia Corporation (Kia HQ) for its review and further investigation. Kia HQ begins its evaluation of issue and possible causes.
July 8, 2022	Kia NA Safety Office begins preliminary field data analysis of 2011-2015MY Optima to determine if other similar incidents exist.
July 21, 2022	Kia HQ provides Kia NA Safety Office with its evaluation of inspection photos identifying insufficient adhesive on headliner plate. Kia HQ confirms same headliner plate design and manufacturing process applied to Optima (QF), including those equipped with and without a panoramic sunroof starting in 2012MY. Kia HQ also confirms that the 2011-2015MY Optima (TF) manufactured in Korea has a different supplier and different adhesive application process to the headliner plate from the Optima (QF) manufactured at Kia Georgia. Kia HQ also identifies no similar incidents globally.
July 22, 2022	Kia NA Safety Office completes field data analysis and confirms no other similar incidents for the 2011-2015MY Optima manufactured in Korea or Georgia.
July 25, 2022	Kia NA decides to recall the 2012-2013MY Optima vehicles manufactured at Kia Georgia. One (1) injury (product liability lawsuit), no fatalities, crashes or fires.