

U.S. Department of Transportation

# National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

August 17, 2023

Mr. J.S. (Jurassic) Park

VP/ Chief Safety Officer

23V-579

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

Kia America, Inc. 111 Peters Canyon Road Irvine, CA 92606-1790

Subject: Air Bag Warning Labels May Detach/FMVSS 208

Dear Mr. Park:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kia America, Inc.'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/SORENTO/2023

Mfr's Report Date: August 15, 2023

NHTSA Campaign Number: 23V-579

**Components:** 

**EQUIPMENT:OTHER:LABELS** 

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 50,517

### **Problem Description:**

Kia America, Inc. (Kia) is recalling certain 2023 Sorento vehicles. The air bag warning labels on the driver and front passenger sun visors may detach. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard number 208, "Occupant Crash Protection."

# **Consequence:**

A detached air bag warning label will not warn occupants about the risks of air bag deployment, increasing the risk of injury in a crash.

### Remedy:

Dealers will inspect and replace the driver and front passenger sun visors, as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed October 10, 2023. Owners may contact Kia customer service at 1-800-333-4542. Kia's number for this recall is SC277.

## 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.nhtsa.gov.

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).

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 49 U.S.C. § 30118(f), submission of eight consecutive quarterly reports followed by three annual reports is required. As described in 573.7, submission of the first of eight 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. The first of three consecutive annual status reports will be due on, or before, 1 year after the eighth quarterly report was submitted.

Kia America, Inc.'s contact for this recall will be Emily C. Smith who may be reached by email at emily.c.smith@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement

