



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

July 31, 2012

Mr. GARETT CAROLUS
TECHNICAL MANAGER
KEYSTONE RV COMPANY
P.O. BOX 2000
GOSHEN, IN 46527

NVS-215KS
12V-355

Subject: BUMPER

Dear Mr. CAROLUS:

This letter serves to acknowledge KEYSTONE RV 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:
KEYSTONE/COUGAR/2010-2012

Mfr's Report Date: July 24, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-355

Components:
EQUIPMENT
STRUCTURE:BODY:BUMPERS
TIRES:TEMPORARY/EMERGENCY SPARE TIRE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,012

Problem Description:

Keystone RV Company (Keystone) is recalling certain model year 2010-2012 Cougar 26SAB and 29RES recreational vehicles manufactured from October 5, 2009, through October 24, 2011. The rear bumper, which holds the spare tire assembly, may experience metal fatigue causing the spare tire to separate from the vehicle.

Consequence:

Over time, the bumper may fail and/or separate from the vehicle, increasing the risk of personal injury and property damage.

Remedy:

Keystone will notify owners, and dealers will install a reinforcement kit free of charge. The safety recall is expected to begin during August 2012. Owners may contact Keystone at 1-866-425-4369.

Notes:

Keystone's recall campaign number is 12-178. 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 Keystone's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

As required in Part 573(c)6, in the case of a defect, please provide a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt. Please provide this information as soon as possible.


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).

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 Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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