

PRODUCT SAFETY RECALLS

GM Recalls 413,000 Vehicles

Description: General Motors (GM) is recalling certain model year 2011 and 2012 Chevrolet Cruze vehicles manufactured from October 2, 2009, through May 31, 2012.

Hazard: Spilled or dripping oil (such as after an oil change) may collect in the engine shield (bellypan) near hot engine or exhaust system surfaces. As a result, the oil and the engine shield may ignite and burn. Either condition could result in an engine compartment fire, possibly causing injury or death.

Remedy: GM will notify owners, and dealers will modify the engine shield to prevent fluid from contacting the shield. Also, on vehicles with a manual transmission, dealers will apply a protective tape to the electronic power steering wire harness.

Kia Recalls 72,000 Vehicles

Description: Kia is recalling certain model year 2006-2008 Rio vehicles, manufactured from February 20, 2005, through December 9, 2007.

Hazard: The front passenger seat occupant sensor mat can experience fatigue cracking. If sufficient cracking occurs, the occupant classification system (OCS) will cease to function such that the system will not be able to detect whether a child passenger is in the seat and the airbag will not deploy during a crash necessitating deployment.

Remedy: Kia will notify owners, and dealers will replace the OCS seat sensor mat, free of charge.

Chicco Polly High Chairs

Description: This recall involves a range of Chicco Polly high chairs with pegs on the back legs intended for tray storage. The high chairs have a folding metal frame for storage and a reclining seat. The recalled high chairs can be identified by the model number and date code printed on a label on the underside of the seat, close to the footrest.

Hazard: Children can fall on or against the pegs on the rear legs of the high chair, resulting in a bruising or laceration injury.

Remedy: Consumers should contact Chicco for a free peg cover kit which will be mailed to them. To help prevent injuries before repair, consumers should store the tray on the pegs when the high chair is not in use.

Innovage Discovery Kids Lamps

Description: This recall involves Discovery Kids Animated Marine and Safari Lamps that feature rotating films with marine or safari scenes. The words “Discovery Kids” are printed on the front top-left corner of the product.

Hazard: The placement of internal wires near the circuit board can cause electrical short-circuiting and sparking, posing a fire and a burn hazard to consumers.

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using the lamps and contact Innovage for instructions on how to obtain a full refund.

Sportspower Limited Trampolines

Description: The recall involves the Sportspower BouncePro 14’ Trampolines with brown mesh netting. The trampolines are surrounded by brown netting measuring about 6 feet high on the perimeter of the trampoline. The netting is designed to contain individuals bouncing on the trampoline.

Hazard: The netting surrounding these trampolines can break, allowing children to fall through the netting and be injured.

Remedy: Consumers should stop using the trampolines immediately and contact Sportspower to receive replacement black netting for the trampoline.

Black & Decker Coffeemakers

Description: This recall involves Black & Decker® brand 12-cup coffeemakers designed to mount under a cabinet. Available in either white or black models, the words “BLACK & DECKER® SPACEMAKER™” are printed in the top right-hand corner.

Hazard: The coffee pot handle can break, causing cuts and burns to the consumer.

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using the coffeemakers and contact Applica to exchange their coffee pot for a free replacement

Family Dollar Decorative Light Sets

Description: The recalled decorative light sets have “200 Mini Lights” and “Multi Lights, Green Wire” printed on the red box. The product is identified by SKU # 2211428 and UPC # 049696720465 found on the back of the package.

Hazard: The light sets do not meet the UL standard for this product and pose a fire and shock risk.

Remedy: Consumer should immediately stop using the light sets and return the product to a Family Dollar store for a full refund.

Has Your Recalled Car Been Repaired?



After the spate of Toyota recalls for product safety defects, Congress requested that the Government Accounting Office (GAO) perform an analysis of the effectiveness of vehicle defect recalls. In June 2011, the GAO issued its report, which details key findings and recommendations. Among those is this important point:

Under federal law, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) cannot require used-car dealers (or franchised dealerships that sell used vehicles) to notify potential buyers of an outstanding safety defect or require that they get the defect remedied prior to sale.

A result is that, in some instances, a used-car dealer may not be aware that an outstanding safety defect exists in

a vehicle. In particular, GAO reported that “a used-vehicle dealer association with over 20,000 members told us that because used dealers do not have a franchise agreement with the manufacturers, they do not receive the defect notices that manufacturers send to franchised dealers. Moreover, used-car dealers we spoke with told us that generally they do not receive defect notices from manufacturers, except in certain cases, such as when a used dealer purchases previously leased vehicles directly from a manufacturer.”

Because of this finding, it is important for consumers to know that NHTSA provides the public with guidance and information on safety recalls, primarily through its website, safecar.gov. There, NHTSA maintains a database that the public can search for safety recalls by entering year, make and model of a vehicle. The agency’s website also provides basic guidance on what to do in the event of a safety recall. You can also access this website under the “Recalls-Tips” tab at www.robertslawfirm.com

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ANSWERS TO LEGAL QUESTIONS

Question: Can the other driver’s insurance company delay paying for my car repairs to pressure me into signing a release on my injury claim?

Answer: No. The Texas Insurance Code prohibits this unfair settlement practice. You have the right to settle the claim for the damage to your car before you settle your injury claim. Normally, you should wait to settle your injury claim until you are released by your doctor.

Insurance companies which engage in this unfair tactic may be liable for any damages which this practice causes you as well as for your attorney fees.

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...LET US PROTECT THEM*

THE ATTORNEYS OF ROBERTS & ROBERTS



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Visit www.robertslawfirm.com or “like” us on Facebook for more recall information and to learn how to report defective products.

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Safety & The Law

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Nationally Recognized



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Instructions: To read a QR code, you will need to download a QR code reader. Once you have a QR code reader installed, your Smartphone will utilize the phone's camera to scan in the codes.

Parents Central Website Focuses on Kids' Safety & Cars

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Parents Central website (www.safercar.gov/parents/index.htm) is a resource to help parents keep kids safe in and around cars. The agency says the site will help provide answers to questions concerning new teen drivers; whether to let your child walk to school, ride a bike or take the school bus; and the safety of your car. The site is organized into topic sections: Car Seats, At the Wheel, In and Around the Car, and On the Move. The site also includes instructional videos for installing car seats, a car seat inspection station locator; information on current NHTSA campaigns, and much more.

The agency encourages users to check the site frequently, as it will continually add information and updates.

You can also access this website under the "Recalls & Tips" tab at www.robertslawfirm.com.



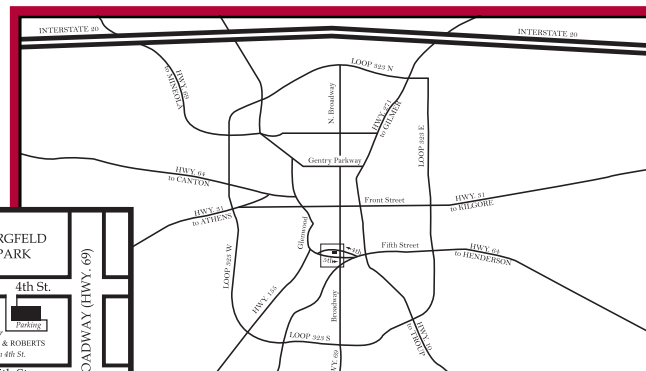
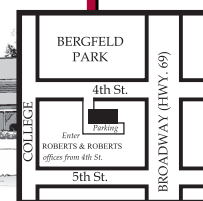
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