

Dated: February 28, 2007.
 By order of the Maritime Administrator.
Daron T. Threet,
Secretary, Maritime Administration.
 [FR Doc. E7-4211 Filed 3-8-07; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Announcing the Sixteenth Public Meeting of the Crash Injury Research and Engineering Network (CIREN)

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.

ACTION: Meeting announcement.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the Sixteenth Public Meeting of members of the Crash Injury Research and Engineering Network. CIREN is a collaborative effort to conduct research on crashes and injuries at eight Level 1 Trauma Centers across the United States linked by a computer network. Researchers can review data and share expertise, which may lead to a better understanding of crash injury mechanisms and the design of safer vehicles. Eight presentations on current research based on CIREN cases will be presented. The agenda will be posted to the CIREN Web site <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/departments/nrd-50/ciren/CIREN.html> three weeks prior to the meeting.

DATE AND TIME: The meeting is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 28, 2007.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at: Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Room 6200, Washington, DC 20590.

To Register for This Event: If you do not have a Federal Government identification card, it is suggested that you notify us in advance in order to put your name on the security list. This will expedite your admission to the building. You may still attend the public hearing but there could be a delay in granting you access. Please e-mail your name, affiliation, phone number and e-mail address to Tasha.Allen@dot.gov by March 23, 2007, in order to get on the pre-registration list.

For General Information: Mark Scarboro (202) 366-5078 or Cathy McCullough (202) 366-4734.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: CIREN cases may be viewed from the NHTSA/CIREN Web site at: <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/departments/nrd-50/ciren/CIREN.html>. NHTSA has held three Annual Conferences where CIREN

research results were presented. Further information about the three previous CIREN conferences is also available through the NHTSA Web site. NHTSA has held public meetings on a regular basis since 2000. Presentations from these meetings are available through the NHTSA Web site. NHTSA plans to continue holding CIREN meetings on a regular basis to disseminate CIREN information to interested parties. This is the sixteenth such meeting. The CIREN Centers will be presenting papers on the side impacts in pediatric cases, injuries involving far side occupants, diffuse axonal brain injuries, seat angle and injury, brain injury and impact angle, analytic techniques for using CIREN data, and elderly data analysis including the use of Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOMS).

Should it be necessary to cancel the meeting due to inclement weather or to any other emergencies, a decision to cancel will be made as soon as possible and posted immediately on CIREN's Web site <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/departments/nrd-50/ciren/CIREN.html>. If you do not have access to the Web site, you may call or e-mail the contacts listed in this announcement and leave your telephone number or e-mail address. You will be contacted only if the meeting is postponed or canceled.

Issued on: March 5, 2007.

Joseph N. Kanianthra,
Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety Research.

[FR Doc. E7-4209 Filed 3-8-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Denial of Motor Vehicle Defect Petition

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, (NHTSA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Denial of a petition for a defect investigation.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the reasons for the denial of a petition (Defect Petition DP06-003) submitted on August 24, 2006 by Mr. William B. Jeffers III of Garner, North Carolina to NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation (ODI), requesting that the agency commence a proceeding to determine the existence of a defect related to motor vehicle safety in model year (MY) 2002 to 2006 Toyota Camry and Camry Solara vehicles (the "subject vehicles") for

incidents relating to vehicle engine surging.

After reviewing the concerns raised by the Petitioner and other information, NHTSA has concluded that further expenditure of the agency's investigative resources on the issues raised by the petition is not warranted. The agency, accordingly, has denied the petition.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Scott Yon, Vehicle Control Division, Office of Defects Investigation, NHTSA, 400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-0139.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Petitioner owns a MY 2006 Toyota Camry with a 4-cylinder engine that was purchased new in January 2006. The Petitioner also previously owned a MY 2005¹ Camry. He alleges that both vehicles exhibited vehicle engine surging, which he described as a short duration (1 to 2 second) increase in engine speed occurring while the accelerator pedal is not depressed. In an initial interview, the Petitioner estimated that 6 to 8 surge incidents, of varying severity, occurred in the MY 2006 vehicle over the course of 10,000 miles and 7 months of ownership. The Petitioner reports that the brake system is effective at overcoming the surge. However, he is concerned about reports filed with NHTSA alleging uncontrolled surging in MY 2002 to 2006 Camry vehicles bringing those vehicles to a high rate of speed (in some cases, purportedly, with the brakes applied).

In September 2006, the Petitioner's MY 2006 vehicle was serviced by a Toyota dealership. The dealership determined that two diagnostic trouble codes (P-codes) related to the operation of the throttle actuator,² P2103 and P2111, were stored in the engine control unit's memory.³ The dealership ordered a new replacement throttle actuator, which was installed on the vehicle in October 2006. Thereafter, in November 2006, the Petitioner reported that another surge event occurred, more severe than his prior occurrences. The Petitioner stated that after startup, the vehicle moved forward rapidly when the throttle pedal was touched lightly. The Petitioner reports that the tires

¹ The open resume for DP06-003 incorrectly identified the Petitioner's previous vehicle as a MY 2003.

² The throttle actuator is the device that controls air flow into the engine and hence power production. On the subject vehicles the actuator is controlled electronically, as opposed to mechanically (via a cable).

³ The Petitioner does not recall seeing any warning indications on the instrument panel nor does he report any operational malfunctions, either of which would be expected when the stored P-codes were detected.